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Close HK To Red China Demand

ANGRY SENATORS

Washington, Dec. 6. Angry Senators demanded on Wednesday that Britain should close Hongkong to any movement of war-useful supplies to the Chinese Communists.

Senator Warren Magnuson, Democrat of Washington, in a bitter speech in the Senate, blamed Britain for most of the strategic materials which have been allowed to reach Communist China.

"The real fault lies with the British," he said. "They are still doing business through Hongkong."

He said he thought the Senate should call the matter to the attention of Mr. Attlee.

"MORAL OBLIGATION" Senator Magnuson spoke amid a chorus of demands that all trade with the Chinese Reds should be cut off immediately.

Senator Herbert O'Connor, Chairman of the Senate Commerce sub-committee which has been investigating exports to the Communists, demanded a complete embargo on all American shipments to China.

Senator Wayne Morse, (Republican of Oregon), said he thought that "in this hour of crisis" the Senators had a right to ask Britain to "live up to her moral obligation to see Hongkong is not used as a means and device for getting war materials to the Reds."

Senator O'Connor said his sub-committee investigations had revealed that quantities of materials far greater than normal had been flowing through Hongkong.—Associated Press.

LEGISLATION

Washington, Dec. 5. Senator Burnet Maybank introduced legislation today which would force President Truman to halt all United States exports to Red China or any other area under the control of the international Communist movement.

His action came as Senator Herbert O'Connor charged that eight American ships carrying strategic materials—apparently foreign-made—are bound for Hongkong or Communist China. Senator O'Connor's statement touched off clamorous calls for action to be taken against the ships, which he said were being used to transport Communist aid to China.

Senator William Knowland said Mr. Attlee should be told that British ships going through Hongkong are "aiding and abetting the Chinese Reds."—United Press.

Carrying A Top Secret



Field Marshal Sir William Slim leaves a Downing Street Cabinet meeting with a folder marked "Top Secret." Picture was taken just before Field Marshal Slim started on his trip to Washington with Mr. Attlee.—AP Picture.

No Separate Peace With Israel

Amman, Dec. 6. Jordan's Premier, Amir Pasha Rifai, announced in Parliament here, amid applause, that peace with the Jews will not be concluded except with the agreement of all Arab States. He told the House of Representatives last night that an imminent conclusion of peace between Jordan and Israel had no place in the intentions, plans or policies of his Government.

His Cabinet had been under fire from all sections of the House over a statement, said to have been unclear, made at last Monday's assumption of office ceremony.

The Government took office on November 4, following the resignation of the former Premier, Said Pasha Mufit. The resignation was stated to be because of ill-health and not connected with the current dispute between Jordan and Israel over a road through a disputed area on the frontier.

Members demanded from the new Government an outline of policy on "such matters as peace, recent Jewish aggression and relations with our ally."—Reuters.

UN Forces In W Korea Escape From Trap

Wonsan Abandoned

FROM JOHN SHAW

Tokyo, Dec. 6. United Nations' forces on the western front of Korea which include two British brigades have now extricated themselves from the Red Chinese trap.

Divisions have regrouped after escaping with comparatively light losses. The uneventful withdrawal southwards continues. The Chinese are following behind at a respectful distance and no clash has been reported for days.

For security reasons daily positions of the United Nations' troops are kept a secret. Neither is any indication being given whether it is intended to halt and fight at any particular defensive line.

The position of the 10th Corps on the eastern side of the peninsula is still precarious. The American 3rd Division has abandoned Wonsan. It was kept out of the Home-for-Christmas offensive towards the Yalu River to garrison the port against guerrillas.

Now it has been withdrawn in the direction of Hamhung, 50 miles north. Some troops were evacuated by sea. It is possible they have been sent to keep the way open for marines still trying to get their way out of encircled Hagaru on the southern tip of the Chosin Reservoir.

Everyone believes that the 7th Division, which had reached the Yalu, and three Southern Korean Divisions, which had made big advances along the northeast coast, are being pulled back into Hamhung perimeter.

Again this is something not officially talked about. There is in effect a military market in Korea until diplomats in Washington give the next order.—London Express Service.

NEW DEFENCE LINE Tokyo, Dec. 6. Chinese Reds streamed south today from Pyongyang toward a new Allied defence line in western Korea, despite scorching attacks from US warplanes.

In northeast Korea, a Chinese Communist attack blocked a US rescue column trying to reach trapped US Marines and Infantrymen near the big Changlin Reservoir.

Reinforcements continued to pour into Korea from Manchuria for the already overwhelmed mass of Chinese Communist troops pressing back the United Nations forces on both fronts.

General MacArthur reported additional Reds in at least divisions.

Honoured



Brigadier Basil Coad, commander of the 27th British Brigade in Korea, who has been awarded the CBE.

Vyshinsky Derides The Peace Appeal

Lake Success, Dec. 6.

Russia's Andrei Y. Vyshinsky attacked on Wednesday a 13-nation appeal to Red China to stop at the 38th parallel in Korea. His opposition and reported objections by Red China's envoy... here apparently doomed the desperate move of Asian and Middle East countries for an end to the fighting.

Informed diplomats said Wu Hsi-chun, Ambassador of the Chinese Communists, countered the peace appeal on Tuesday night with an unofficial demand to know why it was being sent only to this government. He was said to have insisted it should be sent also to the US, Red China and Russia both charge that the US is the aggressor in Korea.

There was no word from Peking on the peace appeal, and the General Assembly went ahead with plans for a fast ending of the crisis. The Assembly voted 51 to five (the Soviet bloc) to send the Political Committee a six-power demand for UN action to stop the Chinese Communists. Four countries, Burma, Afghanistan, India and Indonesia, abstained on this vote.

SAME RESOLUTION

Soon after that vote, the six powers—the United States, Britain, France, Cuba, Ecuador, and Norway—circulated the text of a resolution they are putting before the UN. In exactly the same terms of the six-power resolution voted by Russia last Thursday in the Security Council, the proposal called for withdrawal of Red China's troops from Korea and promised that China's borders with Korea would be protected.

Turning from a long attack on the US in the General Assembly, Mr. Vyshinsky took a dig at the 13-nation appeal in these words: "American armed forces crossed the 38th Parallel with the approval of among others, the authors of a statement published in the press and emanating from certain powers which now appeal for a halt at the 38th Parallel. These powers supported the campaign of the MacArthur legions beyond the 38th Parallel northward to the Manchurian border at the time, but now they make appeals for a halt at the 38th Parallel."

The 13 countries are India, one of the prime movers; The Philippines, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Burma, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen.

Six of these—Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen—plus Hashemite Jordan, make up the Arab League, whose Secretary-General put in the plea yesterday for a Shalin-Truman meeting.

CROSSES SWORDS Mr. Vyshinsky crossed verbal swords with US delegate Warren R. Austin, British Minister of State, Kenneth Younger and Philippine Foreign Minister, Carlos P. Romulo in the Assembly debate on whether to send the Korean crisis to the Political Committee for full discussion.

Mr. Vyshinsky declared there

Truman And Attlee Agree On Fast Building-Up Of Atlantic Defences

SIGNIFICANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Washington, Dec. 6. President Truman and Prime Minister Attlee served notice on the Communist world on Wednesday night that the Western powers will move urgently and "with energy" in building up Atlantic defences against Soviet aggression.

A White House communique announced that the President and the British leader have reached "full agreement" on that phase of the world crisis.

It was the first real pronouncement of the three-day-old talks that began Monday when Mr. Attlee flew to Washington to confer with Mr. Truman on the grave turn of events arising from the intervention of a million-man Chinese Communist army in Korea.

Behind the formal words of the communique, diplomatic experts read dedication to seek to bind together the all-out strength—manpower, material and weapons—of the 12 North Atlantic Treaty nations.

It underscored the British view—shared by many officials here—that the No. 1 concern must be with Europe as the prime centre of defence against Soviet Communism.

Officials said that the Western powers must avoid, if at all possible, tying up their main military strength in any all-out war with China.

However, in a speech before the National Press Club earlier in the day, Mr. Attlee had rejected any "appeasement" of Red China and pledged that his country will fight beside the US in Korea "in fair or foul weather."

Officials said President Truman is also bent against "appeasement as a solution of the Korean crisis. They said Mr. Truman firmly believes that if there are any negotiations to settle the Korean warfare, they must be limited to Korea and Korea alone.

They said, for example, that the US government would turn down any suggestion to buy off the Chinese Communist regime by giving them access to Formosa or surrendering Indo-China to Red conquest.

TEXT OF STATEMENT The White House announced: "Prime Minister Attlee and President Truman held their fourth meeting in the Cabinet Room of the White House this afternoon from 3.30 until 4.35.

"There was a full discussion of problems relating to the defence of the North Atlantic community.

"The Prime Minister and the President are in full agreement on the necessity of carrying out urgently plans and programmes developed by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

"They agreed that, along with other members of NATO, they would go forward with energy in building up the military strength of the Atlantic Community."

Acting Press Secretary Stephen T. Early told newsmen that the two chiefs of state will probably meet again Thursday—and possibly several more times before Mr. Attlee's departure on Friday.—Associated Press.

The people of the Far East have the right to live together as neighbours, and the long-term objective of the United Nations, having this in mind, should be to try to get rid of the causes of war.—Associated Press.

In his prepared text submitted to correspondents with a note that it was subject to last-minute change, Mr. Attlee pledged that as long as "the Stars and Stripes fly in Korea, the British flag will fly beside them."—Associated Press.

MORE UNDERSTANDING As to his talks with Mr. Truman, Mr. Attlee said they were bringing a greater understanding of the different approaches which the two governments make to their common problems.

He also: Defended Britain's recognition of Communist China as simply facing the fact that the Reds rule the whole of the China mainland.

Warned against emotional development of the Korean war policy, saying the Anglo-American peoples should keep their eyes on the long-range objective of securing world peace and respect for international law.

Mr. Attlee said that while the United States is carrying the burden of resisting aggression under the United Nations flag in Korea, "our forces are fighting alongside yours."

"You may be certain," he prepared next continued, "that, in fair or foul weather, where the Stars and Stripes fly in Korea, the British flag will fly beside them. We stand by our duty and we stand by our friends."

He urged avoidance of criticism, saying that what now must be done is "to find how to help those who are bearing this burden in Korea."

Mr. Attlee spoke at some length about General Mac-

COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Welcome New Policy

WE welcome the announcement that the Urban District Council has decided to change its policy in the matter of issuing licences for retail fish and meat shops. It has long been argued that one method of bringing down the retail prices of fish and meat in the Colony is to encourage the establishment of fishmongers and butchers away from the retail markets. Somewhat belatedly, but not less welcome for that, the UDC has concurred with this suggestion. Correctly, the authorities lay it down that these meat and fish shops must conform to required standards, for protection of the health of the Colony is of even greater importance than having fish and meat available at reasonable retail prices. We believe too, that the UDC could profitably go further and also select areas and districts where these shops could best serve their useful purpose. Decentralisation of the retail market is the primary object, for this seems to offer

the most effective method of breaking the retail "rings" which now dominate the markets. The ideal would be to have the fishmongers' and butchers' shops properly spaced within say half a mile of the retail markets. This would make them accessible to the public and would enable the shops to maintain a competitive eye on prices. It is recognised that the establishment of these retail shops would not automatically bring down prices, especially if the stores got into the hands of the present manipulators of fish retail prices. Nevertheless, the idea of encouraging competition by the introduction of small fish and meat shops is worthy of a trial and we feel that the UDC should do its utmost to foster practical support for its new policy. There is plenty of room for genuine competition in the retail fish and meat trades, and if the appearance of fishmongers and butchers helps to bring down retail prices, the general public will have good cause to be grateful.

More Freedom For Hawkers

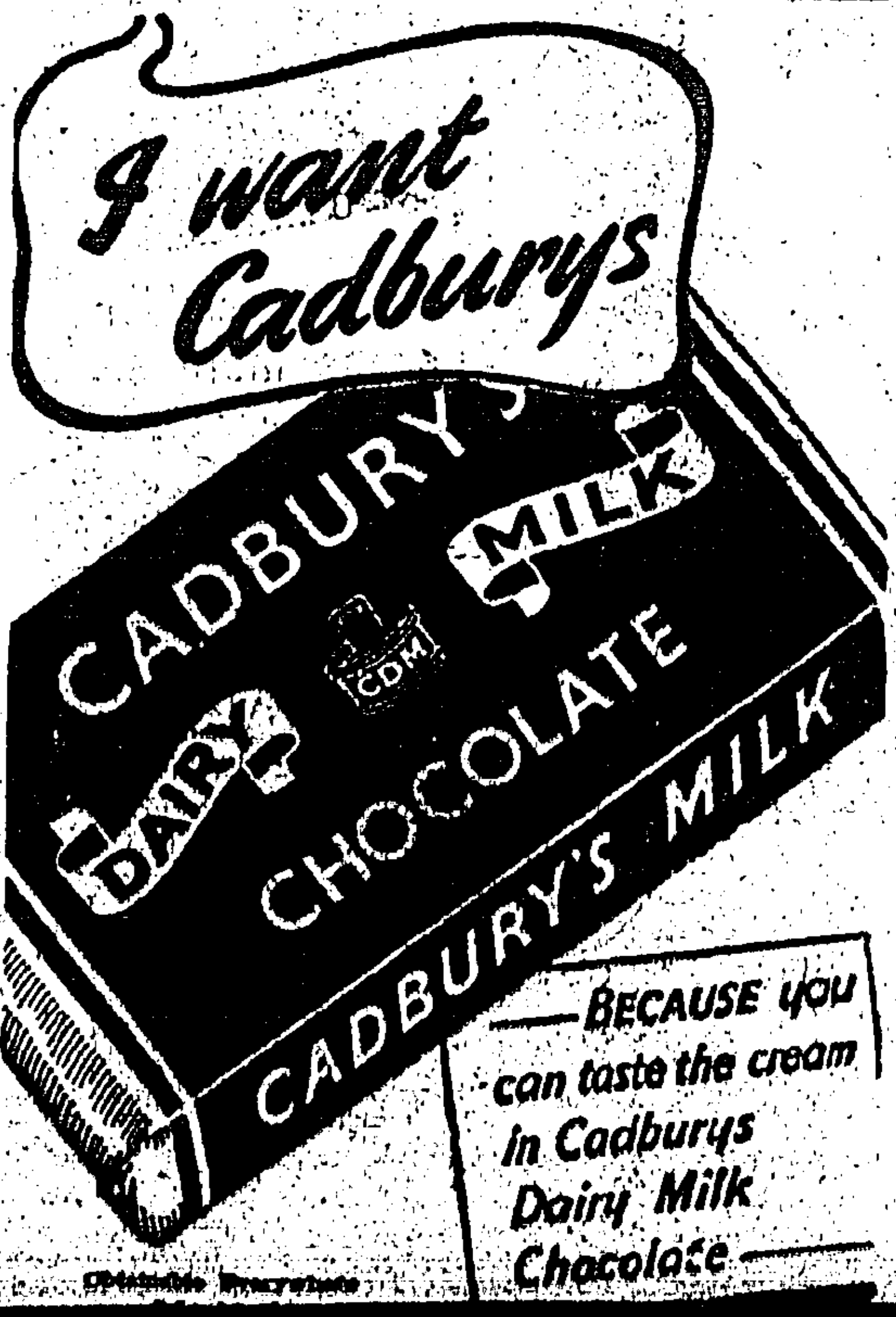
Singapore, Dec. 6. Singapore's hawkers, estimated to number more than 20,000, will be allowed to ply their trade in the future with as little restriction as possible. Municipal commissioners, adopting a report of a hawkers inquiry commission, expressed the view that "the cause of overpopulation would be eliminated if hawkers, with few exceptions—

Significant Appointment

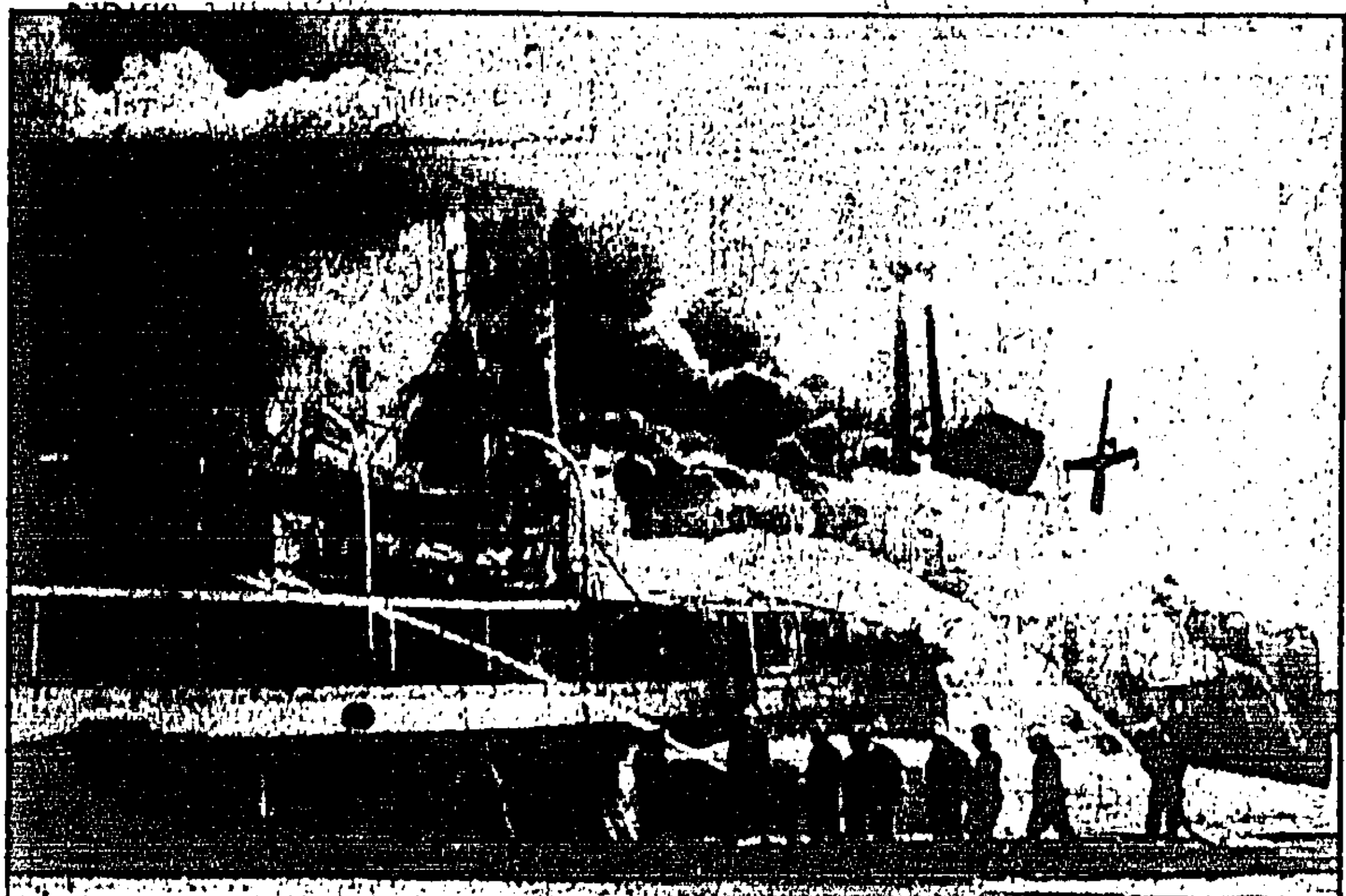
THAT France has appointed her foremost military leader, General de Lattre de Tassigny, as High Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief in Indo-China is a pointer, if such were needed, to the gravity of the situation in that area of the Far East. It also indicates French determination to defend the territory come what may. The tempo of the Vietnam offensive has been increasing since the reverses inflicted on the French in October and there is more than a suspicion that the aid which has been flowing to Ho Chi-minh from the Chinese border may be considerably increased, possibly in the

Appointment

more tangible form of Chinese Communist armies, in the event of a Chinese victory in Korea. France in recent weeks has increased her strength in Indo-China by seven infantry battalions, two artillery groups, a tank regiment, a bomber group and a fighter group, while a trickle of American arms aid has started to arrive. France will need all this, and more, and her Allies will welcome the appointment of General de Lattre. If the Indo-China war should be turned into a wider conflict, as the result of direct Chinese intervention, Indo-China affairs could not be in more capable hands.



Freighter Affire In Suez Harbour

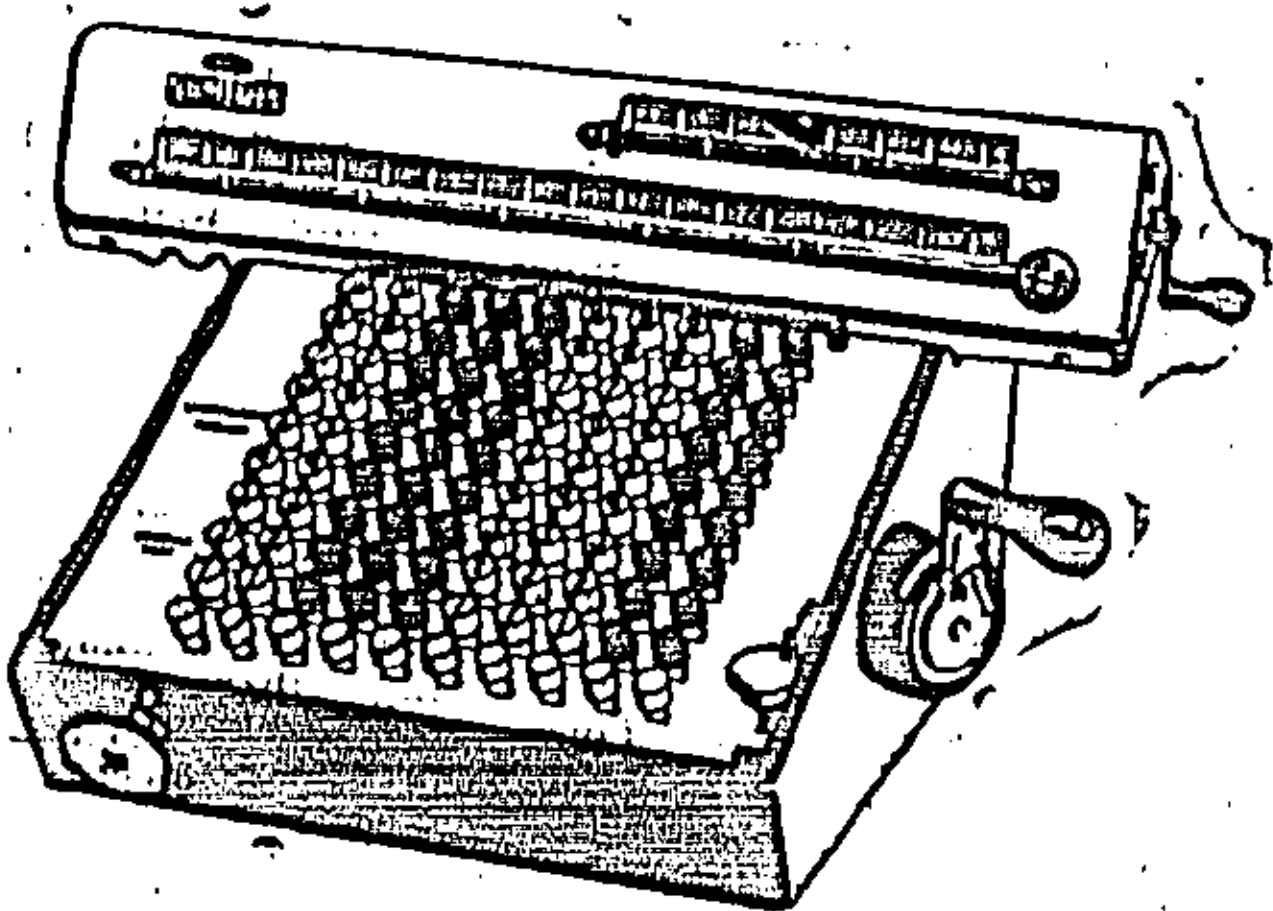


The freighter Eastern Med, of 1,700 tons, owned by the Cyprus Shipping Company, seen ablaze after it caught fire in Suez harbour while loading oil in cans. Two were killed and 18 injured and the vessel sank after 15 hours.—AP Picture.

CRIME ON RAILS

New Delhi, Dec. 6. Mr. K. Santhanam, Minister of States for Railways, disclosing this information in the Indian Parliament, said that 6,800 thefts were also committed in the 12 months ending September this year.

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Eighth Army Retreat Halts On A New Line BUT TOKYO SPEAKS OF EVACUATION

Tokyo, Dec. 6. The retreating United Nations Eighth Army, once more out of contact with hotly pursuing Chinese Communists, paused tonight on a new defence line south of Pyongyang.

But military and diplomatic observers in Tokyo believed that only Chinese acceptance of a cease-fire or a halt at the 38th Parallel could avert a complete United Nations withdrawal from Korea.

Conference On New Guinea

The Hague, Dec. 6. Discussions on the future status of Western New Guinea continued today in the Netherlands-Indonesian conference here. The Indonesian delegation met privately to discuss whether its chief compromise proposal should be submitted to the main conference, due to resume this afternoon.

Though no compromise has yet been officially proposed, it seemed likely that, as a result of the preliminary talks, a joint statement of principle by Mr. Van Marrewijk, Dutch Minister for Overseas Territories and the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr. Mohammed Roem, would be issued.

Working Committees would then get down to details.—Reuter.

Nehru's Visit To London

New Delhi, Dec. 6. The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, will leave India for London on January 2 to attend the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference, which opens on January 4.

He will be accompanied by Sir Jirja Shanker Bajpai, Secretary-General of the Ministry of External Affairs, and will be away from India for about a fortnight.—Reuter.

Demand In Britain For A Cease-Fire

London, Dec. 6. A Foreign Office spokesman said today that last night's 13-nation appeal to China and North Korea not to order their armies across the 38th Parallel was "at first sight a most helpful and constructive proposal."

The text of the proposal, made by governments in Asia and the Middle East, was being studied here, he added. London evening papers gave front-page prominence today to the 13-nation appeal. They carried the statement on the appeal issued by the Indian delegates at Lake Success.

The Washington correspondent of the Star, P. H. Powell said that the American State Department was thought to think well of the appeal and there appeared to be a "slight basis for hope of a compromise solution in Korea."—Reuter.

"TIMES" LETTER

London, Dec. 6. A group of British public men have called for a cease-fire in Korea and an invitation

to Communist China to sit on the Security Council.

In a letter published in the Times today, they said: "In our view, the United Nations forces have advanced beyond the positions which the repelling of North Korean aggression demanded."

The signatories to the letter included Lord Boyd-Orr, scientist, and Nobel peace prize winner (1949), the author, J. B. Priestly, and the Oxford economist, Mr. G. D. H. Cole. They urged the United Nations to issue a statement of their intentions, including a declaration that if the Chinese forces halted their offensive, no further United Nations advance would be attempted.

"No bombing operations, atomic or otherwise, should be launched by the United Nations in North Korea or Manchuria."

"The immediate objective must be a cease-fire, followed by the creation of a neutral zone between the contending forces."—Reuter.

Harwell Working At Record Pace

London, Dec. 6. Britain's atomic energy research station at Harwell is producing radio isotopes at a record rate of nearly 7,000 consignments a year, the Ministry of Supply disclosed today.

"An increasing number of British industrial plants are using them to improve production, cut costs and save time," a Ministry official said.

"Engineering industries in particular find them cheaper and more convenient than X-ray apparatus in photographing the interiors of metal structures."

Radio isotopes are also being used to distinguish the composition of alloys and to measure wear and tear of metals. They can measure the wear of ball bearings down to one-millionth of an inch, enabling them to be made more accurately and faster than ever before.

Textile manufacturers employ isotopes in checking the packing of materials.—Reuter.

Spanish Disaster

Madrid, Dec. 6. Many people are feared to be dead in a collision between

Peking Maintains Silence

Lake Success, Dec. 5. Indian sources said today that the 13-nation appeal to the Chinese Communists not to drive into South Korea went to Peking with the implied assurance that the United Nations would respect the 38th Parallel.

A United States spokesman said later, "The United States delegation has not been asked to give approval to any implications in this appeal nor has it given any favourable or unfavourable comment."

Sir Benegal Kripalani, inspirator of the appeal to Peking, said he had received no assurance from General Wu Hsiang-shan that the Chinese Communists would accept the appeal.

A spokesman of the 13-nation appeal believed that the message to Mao will carry no weight unless there is agreement from both the Communists and the United Nations to respect the Parallel as a ceasefire line. This implication was not expressed.

Asked whether he had received any indication that the Chinese Communists would be willing to halt their forces at the 38th parallel, Sir Benegal said, "No. There has been no indication from them yet. I would be very glad if there had been."—United Press.

ENVOY APPROVED

Washington, Dec. 6. The Senate Foreign Committee today approved the nomination of Mr. Walter Gifford to be United States Ambassador to Great Britain.—United Press.

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 6. Police said Wednesday that 12 people were killed by avalanches caused by the city's heaviest rains in 61 years and that other dead would probably be found in buried homes.—Associated Press.

Republicans Gunning For Acheson

Washington, Dec. 6. Senator Robert Taft said today that the Senate Republican Policy Committee, of which he is chairman, was considering whether to recommend the party to demand that the Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, be fired.

The matter was discussed at a policy session on Tuesday and would be taken up again at a meeting on Thursday or Friday.

It was the first indication of concerted Republican action seeking to force the resignation of Mr. Acheson, although many Republicans, including Mr. Taft, have individually called for his ouster.

Senator Taft emphasised Republican consideration of such move is part of a broader party stand on overall aspects of foreign policy, particularly on Korea.—United Press.

Atom Bomb A Symbol Of Incarnate Evil

New Delhi, Dec. 6. Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, said here today that the atom bomb had become the symbol of incarnate evil and hoped there would be no question of it being used now or later.

He was opening a foreign affairs debate in the Indian Parliament.

Mr. Nehru said the brunt of the fighting on behalf of the United Nations in Korea had fallen on the United States forces, which had suffered heavily, and the sympathy of the House would go out to them.

There could be no solution of the situation in the Far East unless China was brought into the picture. In any negotiations for a solution, the question of Formosa would also have to be considered though not immediately.

Welcoming the Truman-Attlee talks, Mr. Nehru said the military situation was rapidly changing and he could not make any profitable suggestions as to what should be done.

He could only hope the Washington talks would bear fruit.

Mr. Nehru said there was a good deal in common in India's view on the Far Eastern situation and what the British

Prime Minister had said in regard to it.

APPEAL TO POWERS

Referring to Tibet, Mr. Nehru said he earnestly hoped that the Chinese Government would try to settle the Tibetan question peacefully.

The Indian Government's talks with two members of the Nepal Government had yielded no results so far, Mr. Nehru said, and he declared that India proposed to continue to recognise the Nepal King (now in Delhi) and saw no reason why she should do anything else.

Mr. Nehru, who was frequently cheered by the House, ended a one-hour speech with an appeal to the great powers to make every effort to solve the present international tangle by negotiation or any other way, provided it was peaceful.

The Government and Parliament of India, he declared, would do everything in their power to promote peace and avoid war.—Reuter.

Pope's Appeal To Catholics

Vatican City, Dec. 6. Pope Pius XII today appealed to all Catholics of the world for public prayers for peace to avert the fearful threat of war. In a letter published in the Vatican newspaper Osservatore Romano, the Pope called on all Catholic bishops to gather their flocks in a Christmas crusade of prayers for concord between peoples.

The Pope asked that the prayers for peace should be specially offered on the night before the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8, when he will himself say midnight mass and in the nine days before Christmas.—Reuter.

Senators Caution President

Washington, Dec. 6. Twenty Republican Senators on Wednesday introduced a resolution cautioning President Truman to undertake no commitments with Prime Minister Attlee which are not subject to Senate review in treaty form.

The resolution, introduced by Senator James Kemp, also expressed the belief that President Truman should give the Senate full and complete reports concerning his current conversations with Mr. Attlee.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, also a sponsor of the resolution, called for an immediate balance sheet showing contributions as to manpower and resources which would be made by American's United Nations allies to the common effort. He also asked for speedy action on establishing a mobile and hard-hitting international police force.

Senator Cain told the Senate: "Turkey and Greece must become full and equal members of the Atlantic Pact. Every possibility for having Sweden made a member of the pact must be explored. A military, political and economic understanding ought promptly to be worked out with Spain, and Spain ought to become a full and equal member of the Atlantic Pact. Germany must be made a free and self-governing nation and given its complete right to rearm as it thinks best. Japan must be reconstituted as a nation and given the right and opportunity to rearm."—United Press.

Soviet-Peking Split Hinted

Lake Success, Dec. 6. The Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Vyshinsky, told the United Nations today that the nations which have appealed to Communist China to halt at the 38th Parallel were countries that supported "that war maniac MacArthur" when he drove into North Korea.

It was the first reference in the General Assembly to the appeal to Peking issued on Tuesday night by 13 Asian and Arab nations calling for a guarantee that the Chinese Reds would not push southward across the 38th Parallel in pursuit of the retreating United Nations troops.

Mr. Vyshinsky's derogatory reference to the appeal appeared to indicate a possible split between Moscow and Peking in view of the belief in Washington diplomatic circles that the Chinese Communists may have given India some indication of willingness to halt their troops at the 38th Parallel.—United Press.

Desert Air Crash

Cairo, Dec. 6. The pilot was reported killed when a Royal Egyptian Air Force fighter plane crashed in the Eastern desert near Cairo today.—Reuter.

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Spanish Disaster

Many people are feared to be dead in a collision between

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

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THE WINNER—THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN ON EARTH! LOOK AT THAT! JENNY'S BEAUTY, STYLE, BREEDING!

WOW! GIRL!

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THIS IS THE ORIGINAL, EVIDENTLY TAKEN ON THE STREET WHILE SHE WALKED WITH THE GENTLEMAN!

ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN HER KNOWS SHE'S WONDERFUL! AND HER NAME? Hmmm... NO NAME! JUST AN ADDRESS!

ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN HER KNOWS SHE'S WONDERFUL! AND HER NAME? Hmmm... NO NAME! JUST AN ADDRESS!

ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN HER KNOWS SHE'S WONDERFUL! AND HER NAME? Hmmm... NO NAME! JUST AN ADDRESS!

Amazing Find In Manila

Manila, Dec. 7. Police and Finance Department agents discovered US\$100,000 worth of gold and silver in a raid on a Chinese-owned soap factory.

Police said the factory was apparently used for conversion of gold and silver into ingots for export. Two Chinese arrested at the plant were charged with illegal possession of contraband goods.

The gold and silver dust was apparently made on the place by grinding down coins or other articles. It was then run through a crude but effective chemical process which separated alloys from the dust, leaving either pure gold or pure silver to be melted down into small bars in a furnace.

Agents have been keeping the place under surveillance for four months as a suspected source of gold and silver being smuggled out of the Philippines to China. A representative of the Chinese Nationalist Embassy was present when the agents started their raid, but no explanation was given.

Three-fourths of the gold mined in the Philippines is sold on the open market legally, but export of the metal is prohibited. The Philippines Government pays 70 pesos (US\$35) per ounce for the other one-fourth of the gold produced here. Open market prices for gold here have ranged upwards of 115 pesos (US\$57.50) per ounce for months.—Associated Press.

PIPES ARE ON WAY OUT

London, Dec. 6. Britons, from Bond Street gentlemen to gruff Cockney dockworkers, are laying aside the pipes which once were closely linked to their way of living.

Pipes are too much trouble and too expensive. An ounce of tobacco costs four shillings—sixpence more than a pack of 20 cigarettes.

The men who make and sell pipes and tobacco are highly disturbed. They have formed the National Pipe Smoking Conference from representatives of associations of retail tobacconists, pipe and pipe tobacco manufacturers and other allied industries.

The conference decided to start a "Smoke a Pipe" campaign. It begins with a contest, first prize £52.10s. for the poster "typifying the satisfaction to be obtained from smoking a pipe."

Donald Dalley, spokesman of the retail tobacconists, wails: "Young people these days never learn the joy and comfort which experienced pipe smokers attain!"—Associated Press.

Snowstorms In America

Chicago, Dec. 6. Snowstorms laid a white blanket over nearly half a million square miles of the United States' mid-section today. In some of the coldest weather of the season, temperature went to 27 degrees below zero at Fraser, Colorado, 24 below at Amestown, North Dakota, and five above at Amarilla in the Texas panhandle.

The storm turned wet and sticky the whole area from Lake Superior to Arkansas and from Iowa to Ohio slowed trains and automobiles and turned streets and highways into icy death traps. In Wichita, Kansas, all public schools and factories were closed.—United Press.

Cabinet Crisis In France Averted At Last Minute

A threatened French Cabinet collapse over German rearmament was stayed off today by behind-the-scenes political manoeuvring, reliable sources said tonight.

The Cabinet met for four hours this morning and then adjourned until 2000 GMT (4 a.m. Thursday, Hongkong time). During the adjournment some compromises had been designed to keep the Socialists from backing out of the Coalition Government. Without them, the Government would come down.

The Socialists threatened to split on the Cabinet backing for the Anglo-American formula of including German troops in the Western defence mechanism.

The compromise was not disclosed but reports said that former Premier Georges Bidault might be invited back into the Government as a minister without portfolio. Although M. Bidault is a member of the Popular Re-

MacARTHUR London Deprecates MP's Suggestions

NO EXCEEDING OF UN INSTRUCTIONS

London, Dec. 6. The Government today deprecated the suggestions that General Douglas MacArthur had gone beyond United Nations directives in Korea.

Answering a barrage of questions in the House of Commons, the Foreign Under-Secretary of State, Mr Ernest Davies, said: "We have no reason to suggest and we do not wish it to be suggested that he had acted outside the resolution of the United Nations."

Mr Davies said that the United Nations resolutions delegated the conduct of the campaign to the unified command and the United States was asked to appoint a commander. It was in that respect that General MacArthur was acting.

It was the second day this week that the Foreign Office had been questioned about General MacArthur's handling of the situation in Korea.

Major Niall MacPherson, National Liberal and Conservative, had urged the publication of the directive given to General MacArthur.

Mr Raymond Blackburn, Independent, had also asked what representations the Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, had made to the United States Government about the instructions given to General MacArthur to advance into North Korea.

Mr Davies replied that as previously stated, the objectives of General MacArthur had been laid down in the United Nations resolution. There had been appropriate consultation.

NO WARNING?

Labour Member, Thomas Driberg, suggested that the position of the United Nations forces must have been foreseen by British military advisers at the beginning of the war. If so, had no advice or warning been given?

RAF CRASH IN SPAIN

Gibraltar, Dec. 6. The ten people aboard the Royal Air Force Wellington bomber, which crashed in Spain yesterday, were today presumed to have been killed.

The Wellington, which carried a crew of four or five, was one of eight which left Shrewsbury, Shropshire, yesterday morning on a navigational training flight. The aircraft was hit by lightning but this has not been confirmed. Four of the aircraft landed at Tangier, and three at Gibraltar.

The lost plane crashed near Deniz on the Montgo mountain range in the Alicante province. Rescue parties which went out yesterday, were caught in a snowstorm.—Reuter.

Education Day

Berlin, Dec. 6. A reporter telephoned the East German Government information office in the Russian sector.

The operator answered: "Call back later. There is nobody here."

"Where is everybody?" The operator said: "That is a foolish question. Today is Wednesday. You should know by now that everybody takes political education every Wednesday morning."—United Press.

Help For Tito

Belgrade, Dec. 6. United States Ambassador George Allen held a 40-minute conference with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Edvard Kardelj on Wednesday for the first time since Mr Kardelj returned from the United Nations.

The main topics discussed were to have been Yugoslav relations with Greece and the prospects of American aid to Marshal Tito.

Yugoslavia on Wednesday accepted Britain's offer of an \$18,430,000 credit to buy foodstuffs.—United Press.

publican Movement (Catholic Party), he has some popularity among other political factions, including the Socialists. Popular Republicans (MRP) are already represented in the Cabinet by Foreign Minister Robert Schuman.

Mr Bidault would immeasurably strengthen the Cabinet through personal following and international prestige.

FORMULA DISCUSSED

The German rearmament issue has threatened the always precariously balanced French Government for weeks.

A formula, reported to have been reached in the London meeting of the Atlantic Pact Deputies Council, was debated by the Cabinet in secret today.

DEFENDED



A Colour Party from the Middlesex Regiment ("The Dichards") attended at the Guildhall, Westminster, for the ceremonial laying up of the colours of the former 9th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment, Territorial Army, which became 595 Light AA Searchlight Regiment, RA (9th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment, DCO), TA, in 1941. Photo shows the Chairman of Middlesex County Council, Lt. Col. A. H. Farley, speaking at the ceremony.

Dichards At Guildhall

Korean Crisis Bringing Japan Treaty Nearer

Washington, Dec. 6. The catastrophe which has befallen the United States in Korea is likely to hasten rather than retard efforts for an early Japanese peace treaty.

That was the opinion expressed by authoritative informants today when they were asked if the Korean debacle would cause a shelving of plans to push ahead on the Japanese treaty. They gave two principal reasons for believing it is imperative that the United States make an attempt to achieve a peace pact with Japan as soon as possible.

Firstly, in view of the deteriorating situation in the Far East, a completely sovereign Japan, adequately protected by a separate agreement with the United States, would be a much more effective and co-operative American ally than an occupied, subservient and uncertain Japan would be.

Secondly, conclusion of a treaty would mean the freeing of Japan from the policy restrictions imposed by the 13-Point Eastern Commission on which the Soviet Union has the veto power, and thus permit inauguration by Japanese officials of more positive measures to bolster morale and to improve the general well-being of that country.

These sources emphasised the critical situation in Asia made it more necessary than ever that the treaty be accompanied by strong security guarantees to protect Japan from aggression. The American plan envisages the use of "Japanese facilities by American troops and air force to safeguard the islands. The agreement would be comparable to the one under which American air force personnel and their equipment are stationed in the United Kingdom now.

American officials are willing to negotiate such an agreement on a bilateral basis with Japan completely outside the framework of the treaty arrangements. They have taken this attitude to meet the objections of the Indian Government which asserts that inclusion of such American arrangements in the treaty itself would constitute a violation of Japanese sovereignty which the treaty is supposed to create.

CHINA'S ATTITUDE

Meanwhile, it was understood, American officials have abandoned any hope they might have had that Communist China could be induced to agree to a Japanese peace treaty on terms acceptable to the United States, the British Commonwealth and other non-Communist nations concerned. That was the official reaction to Communist Premier Chou En-lai's 3,000-word statement insisting upon Peking's participation in the treaty drafting and charging the United States with seeking a separate Japanese peace treaty in order to give it a free hand in "rebuilding the aggressive force" of Japan.

Officials here noted that the Peking Government, like Russia, objected to the American proposal that the United States be given strategic United Nations trusteeship to meet the objections of the Indian Government which asserts that inclusion of such American arrangements in the treaty itself would constitute a violation of Japanese sovereignty which the treaty is supposed to create.

no basis for taking the Ryukus and Bonin away from Japan and putting them under trusteeship is viewed here as an obvious propaganda manoeuvre designed to try to convince the Japanese that the Reds have their welfare at heart. American officials described it as a particularly cynical manoeuvre because they contend Russia and Communist China have no intention of agreeing to any treaty and are merely trying to confuse the issues.—United Press.

Airliners Brought Back Into Service

Washington, Dec. 6. The Air Force disclosed today that 29 commercial airliners, dropped from the Pacific airlift in September, have been recalled to duty to handle the increased needs for Korea.

Officials discounted any idea that the planes might be used for evacuation of troops from Korea, although Representative Hinchshaw, California Republican, told the House of Representatives that the House of Representatives "It is my understanding that we may have to send our entire four-engine fleet (of commercial airliners) to Korea in the event we have to stage another Dunkirk."

Mr Hinchshaw declined to elaborate to reporters on this remark, which was made during debate on airline subsidy legislation.

Officials indicated, however, the airliners were not destined for evacuation work, although General Omar Bradley spoke on Tuesday of possible evacuation of hard-pressed troops in the north-east sector of Korea. The officials pointed out that the airliners have been used in moving men and supplies, including medical men and medical supplies, across the Pacific, and for the transport of wounded homeward. The decision to recall the big commercial planes to Government duty was made four or five days ago.—Associated Press.

Commitments Will Be Met

New York, Dec. 6. The Independent New York Times, commenting editorially on the Chinese Communist advance in Korea, said on Wednesday:

"These armies may be strong enough to thwart the United Nations' purposes for a moment. But it would be a dark day for mankind if the free world should fail to stand by its clear commitments on this issue, fail to identify and denounce the clear fact of Chinese Communist aggression and effect pay settlement which would reward that aggression. Fortunately there is no reason to believe these things will happen."—United Press.

NEW LAVA THREAT IN SICILY

Catania, Sicily, Dec. 6. The 1,500 inhabitants of the villages of Milo and Rinazzo were today feverishly evacuating their most precious belongings as erupting Mount Etna spewed a stream of lava toward their homes.

At midnight, the main flow of lava lapped over the last protection of the two villages—a deep ravine which has now disappeared, for ever.

Rumbling and crackling, the nine metre high wall of incandescent rock began rolling down an open slope towards the first mud and stone dwellings two kilometres away. It was making a speed of 55 metres an hour.

The commander of the armed forces in Sicily sent out an order shortly after dawn: "Everything portable must be evacuated immediately."

Big bands of troops and police helped the villagers. Seventy-seven year old Don Concetto Figliera, Archbishop of Milo, who left his hospital bed in nearby Catania three days after an operation to return to his threatened parish, spent the night in prayer in the little 14th Century church.—Reuter.

Accra Refuses An Inquiry

Accra, Gold Coast, Dec. 6. The Government refused an inquiry into the shooting in the Gold Coast village of Supe on November 8, in which four people died.

It had no evidence making an inquiry necessary, the Chief Secretary, Mr R. H. Salway, stated in the Legislative Council yesterday, in reply to Dr Danquah, Vice-President of the United Gold Coast Convention.

A disturbance was caused when the villagers refused to pay a local levy to the State Treasury. The police opened fire. Nine people were wounded and four of them, including a woman, later died.

The Paramount Chief of Arlo and the State Council also protested to the Colonial Office, demanding an inquiry and alleging that the police broke into houses and completely sacked the village.—Reuter.

Albanian Protest

Frankfurt, Dec. 6. Albania on Wednesday sent the Italian Government a verbal note protesting alleged territorial air and sea violations by Italian craft.—United Press.

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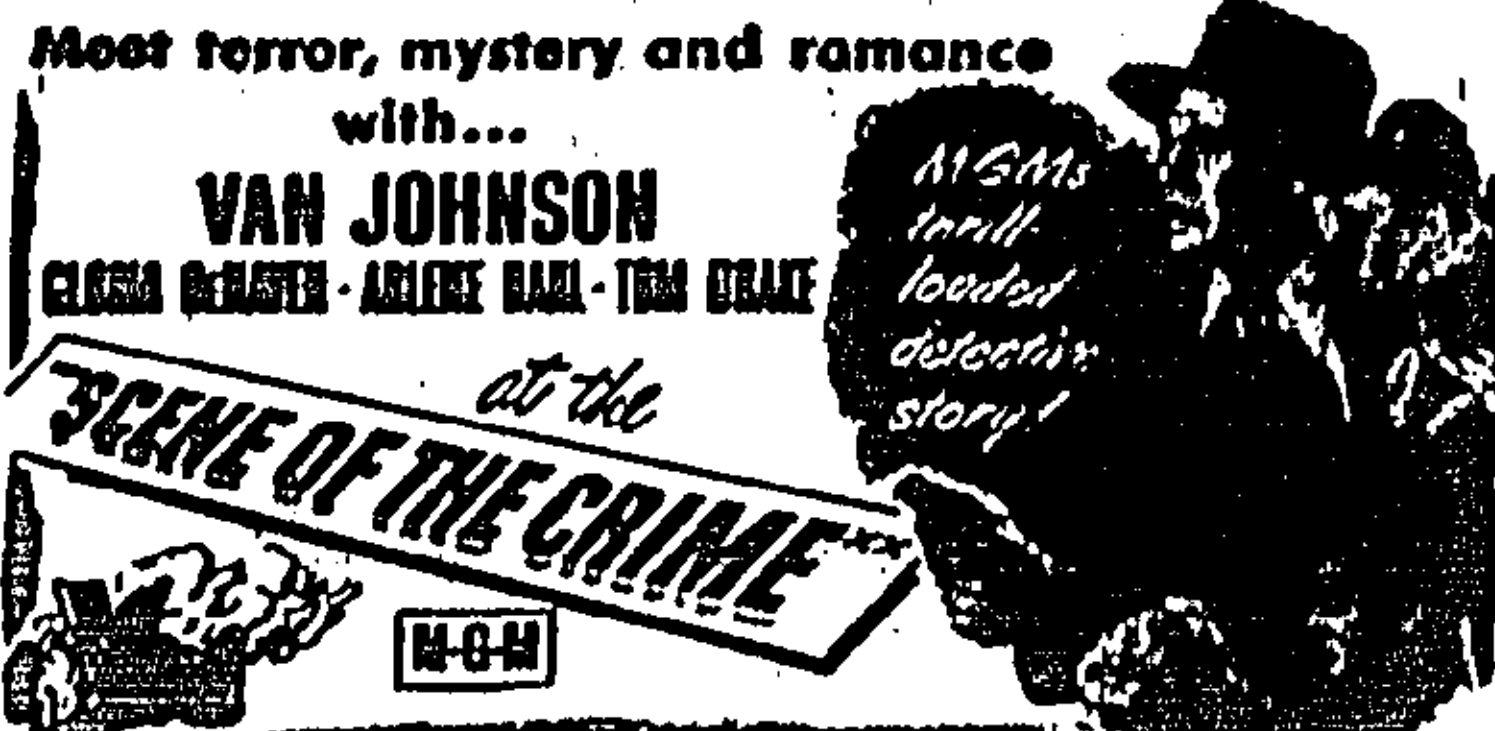
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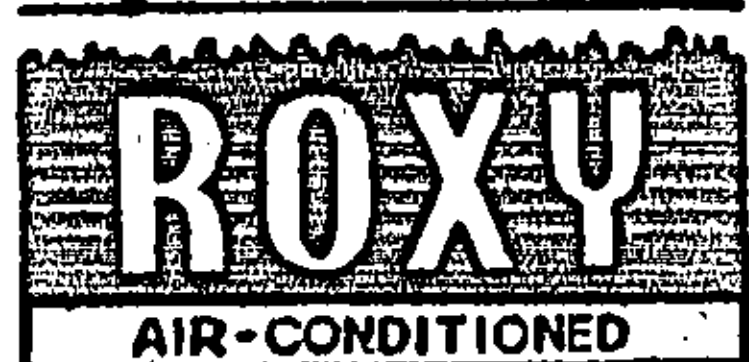


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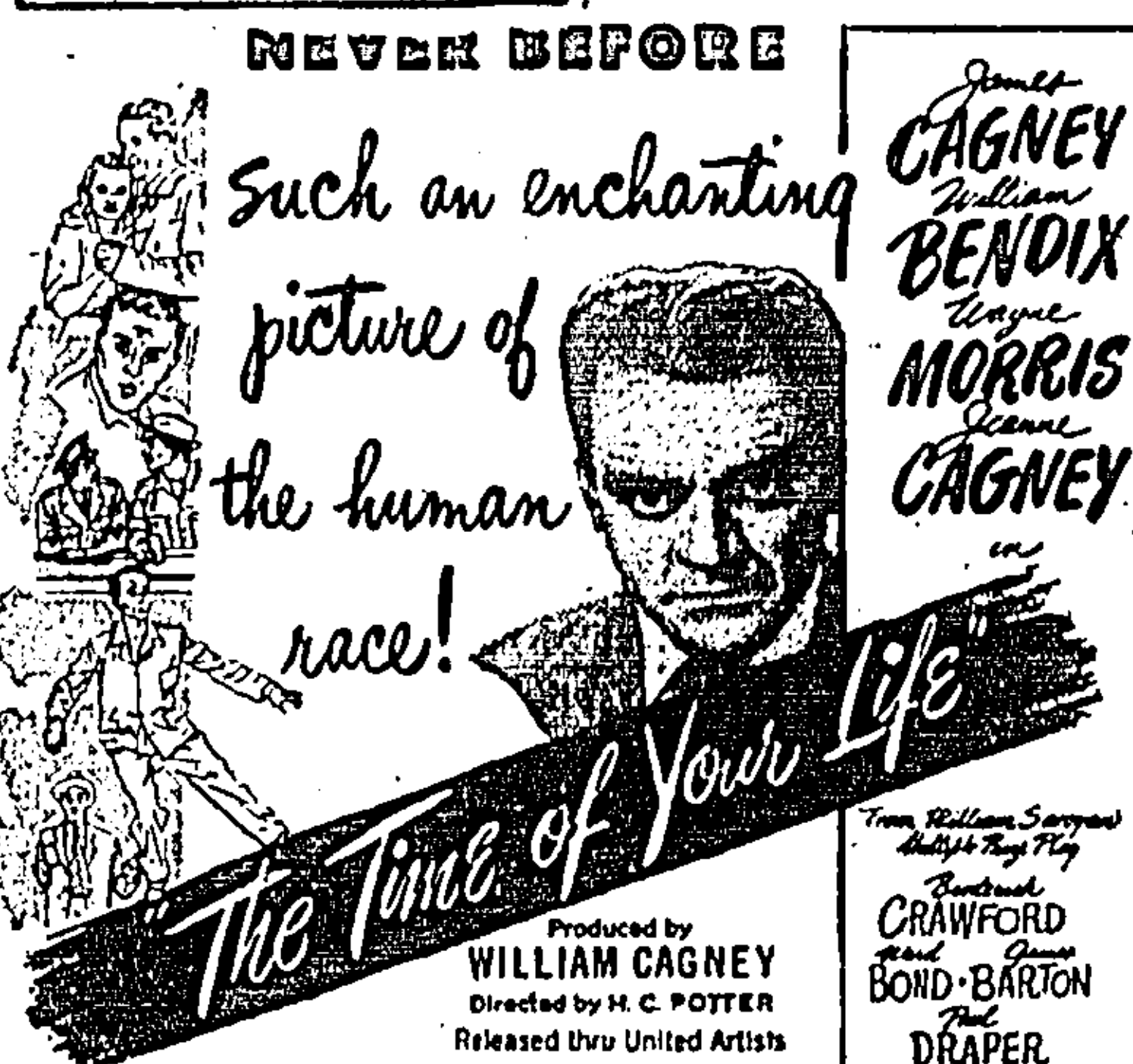
A NEW RUGGED OUTDOOR STAR — FORREST TUCKER
THE "SANDS OF IWO JIMA" GIRL — ADELE MARA
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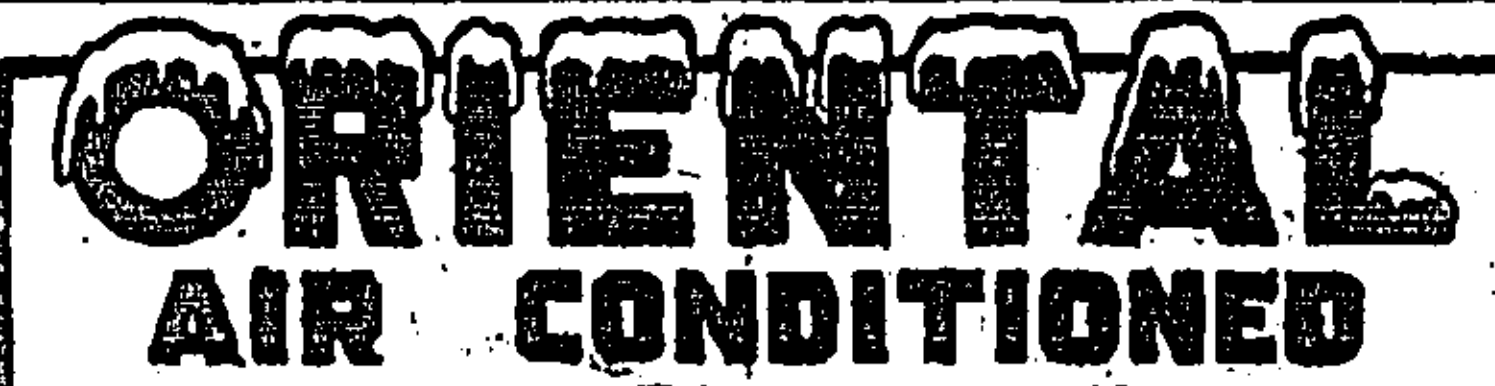
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TO-MORROW: "FOUR HEARTS" U.S.S.R. PICTURE

America puts the clock on, and goes in for a marathon Christmas.

DON IDDON'S DIARY

NEW YORK, TUESDAY

FATHER Christmas and Senator Robert Taft, who are not to be confused, are the outstanding celebrities here just now. Both have made rather premature appearances. Father Christmas is in all the New York store windows, beaming rosy. He is on the posters and in the magazines and newspapers, obviously determined to play a long campaign. Carols are being piped through the juke-boxes and sound-amplifiers, so that the day and night are anything but silent.

Pop talk needed

It could be that Americans are so imbued with peace and good will that they want four weeks of Christmas instead of the usual few days, but the best information I have is that business pushed Father on to the stage to drum up sales. A pop talk to shoppers is plainly needed. Since I got back from the Bahamas I have been surprised to hear the word "slump" and see evidence of a falling-off in trade.

Business is down, way down. The loud demand for new cars, furniture, refrigerators, radios and television sets has changed into a mere request. There is a minor recession throughout the country (except in Texas, of course).

So the Christmas shopping season has been put forward. I have no complaint. New York is at its best at Christmas. If we are to have a marathon holiday season, a non-stop shopping spree, a perpetual celebration, I will join in.

Thanksgiving time

THE big post-election personality, Robert Taft, does not seem so eager. It is not that he doesn't like Christmas—he just doesn't want the U.S. to play Father Christmas to all the world.

Mr Taft is in the headlines, in the newsreels, in the thick of things. He is being presented as a great statesman. This man from Ohio dominates the cautious Conservatives, but says: "No one but an idiot would be an isolationist today." The record, however, says that although Taft voted for the Marshall Plan he voted against the Atlantic Pact, he voted against

the military aid programme, and against Point Four. Any and every move to axe and chop help to Europe was supported by Taft.

I hope the man who calls isolationism idioty does not now practise idioty.

I am sorry that Hollywood has missed the occasion of Thanksgiving to release a feature film with a script which goes something like this: "Thank you for making Americans so wonderful, so strong, so rich, such world leaders, such engineers, farmers, scientists, soldiers, etc., etc." Thanks for everything, but not this.

Of course, this self-approbation is aided and abetted by a whole stream of apocryphic visitors. Here is Lord Bertrand Russell, Nobel Prize winner in literature, and what does he say?

"There are today only two genuine States—the U.S. and Russia—each with its satellites. Britain is one of the United States' satellites, because the British depend heavily on the U.S. financially and protectively."

Why does he do it? And who was the satellite when the world depended on Britain in the first two years of the war?

Joe's comeback

THIS sort of toadying makes Mr Vyshinsky rub his hands. The Kremlin's grin is still here, but not giving thanks and not singing carols.

He announces that Trygve Lie is "timid, cowardly, guided, base, biased, pro-American, nothing but a loudspeaker and mouthpiece." A loudspeaker—I like that from the world's loudest and biggest mouth.

New York's new mayor, the People's Choice, the impudent Mr Impellitteri, is on holiday in Florida's sunshine. While he lolls the defeated and discredited political machine, Tammany Hall, tries to stage a comeback.

This is a favourite American pastime. Joe Louis is trying it again.

He is in training for a fight with Cesar Brion in Chicago. Joe says: "I can do it. I want to meet Ezzard Charles again. I'm not through yet."

It is a mistake. It is a tragic thing. The great champion went out honourably and should stay out.

A much better idea, if Louis must fight, would be for him to meet Tommy Farr. I know the managers of Farr and Louis

have been on the Transatlantic phone secretly in the past few weeks.

Anyway, I prefer less violent entertainments—the theatre and the films.

All in favour

IT is now no contest as far as British talents are concerned. Our Christopher Fry is being told he is "a genius, a colossus, a new Shaw." His "The Lady's Not for Burning" has New York critics and audiences blushing with such bright enthusiasm that Fry is embarrassed. Fry is Time magazine's front-cover man.

Margot Fonteyn graces Newsweek's cover over a caption "Britannia Rules the Waves." Her salary is \$100 a week, a tenth of what Americans would pay her.

Rock Harrison and wife Lilli Palmer are rated bewitching in John Van Druten's "Bell, Book, and Candle," but the play itself is only fair.

Clive Brook is welcome back on Broadway, and he starts rehearsals for "The Second Threshold." Brook has been away too long.

Sarah Churchill has been asked by John Gielgud to co-star with him in "Princess Elizabeth" in London next spring. He is delighted with the offer, and will probably also play in "King Lear" with Louis Calhern in New York.

Dr Edith Sitwell rang up to ask why I wasn't at her reading of "Macbeth." Unfortunately, I was at Nassau. The critics said Miss Sitwell was sensational.

The eulogy of Jean Simmons is getting out of hand. The New York Daily News calls her "Britain's miracle actress, a combination of Vivien Leigh, Hedy Lamarr, and Elizabeth Taylor." Her fiancé, Stewart Granger, says she's even better.

All the Command Performance stars are glowing over the graciousness of the Royal Family. Hollywood has become London's satellite.

Festival star?

DANNY KAYE is still considering that quarter-of-a-million dollar offer to appear for 12 weeks at the Festival of Britain. His manager insists the offer was made.

Why not hire a British star for a British festival?

They say about women that the only thing they won't wear on a hat is the price ticket.

Heard around town: The United Nations are now between the Devil and the bright Red Chinese. Benjamin Franklin said it first—Beware the little foxes, a small leak will sink a great ship.

Footnote: The new Congress means the end of "Ours not to ask the ways, ours but to subside."

Opinions Differ On 'Missing Link'

Two South African scientists insist that bone fragments and other remains prove that the "missing link" between man and the apes lived in the Transvaal some 1,000,000 years ago.

Dr Robert Broom and J. T. Robinson, of the Transvaal Museum in Pretoria, discussed the controversy over their finds in the scientific magazine Nature. They titled the article "Ape or Man?"

"They said that in the last two years they had discovered a number of nearly complete skulls 'which give us a new picture of the origin of man... We seem to be dealing with beings that have some claim to be called human.'"

"A considerable number of men of science from America and Europe have visited South Africa to examine our specimens," they said, "and we think all who have taken this trouble have gone back convinced that at least we have the remains of beings that were much more human in structure than any known living or fossil apes."

"Opinions still differ considerably. Some have argued that all our apes-men are true human beings. Some—a very few, we believe—consider they are anthropoid apes."

THE LADY MAYORESS



The Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Denys Lawson, at the Mansion House before she left for Buckingham Palace for the State Banquet to Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard after their arrival for a three-day visit to London. Her duchess satin gown is of palest mauve with a draped neckline. Earrings and necklace match a diamond tiara. (London Express Service)

12 Million Held In Soviet Camps

A Swiss woman, Mme. Elinor Lipper, 36, who spent 11 years in Soviet concentration camps in Siberia, said in Paris: "The inhabitants of these camps cease to be human beings. They are just animals, thinking only of the next piece of bread."

She estimated that, with allowance made for the heavy mortality rate, there was a constant population of 12 million in Russian concentration camps.

Mme. Lipper was speaking at a meeting of the Anglo-American Press Association. She is to be one of the chief witnesses in the forthcoming libel action which M. David Rousset, the French author, is bringing against Les Lettres

Franchises, Paris Communist weekly journal.

A fragile figure in black, Mme. Lipper said she went to Russia "as a convinced Communist" in 1937, obtaining work in a publisher's office. Within six months she was arrested and sentenced to five years' imprisonment for "counter-revolutionary activities."

"I had done nothing nor said anything," she said. "There was no question of a trial. I was condemned administratively."

During the next 11 years Mme. Lipper passed through 14 camps and 10 prisons, chiefly in the Kolyma region, Northeast Siberia. The war prevented her release after five years.

Describing working conditions in the camps, Mme. Lipper said: "If you did not work well enough you were beaten up; if you went on hunger strike, you were shot."

The food allowance was 21oz. of bread daily, but it was withheld from those unable to work a full 12-hour day. More often than not, women marched five miles to their work.

They had to chop wood in the forests, work in the fields, and clear snow from the roads.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



How do you suppose Shakespeare was named? Is it...

MORE ROOMS AT NATIONAL GALLERY

Three more rooms have been opened at the National Gallery in London. They are those on the ground floor which were used for special exhibitions during and immediately after the war.

After being used since then for the storage of delicate pictures requiring observation and special atmospheric conditions, they have been redecorated, together with the staircase connecting them with the main exhibition floor.

The 140 pictures which they now contain are the first selection from 800 which the Trustees have set aside for lending to other galleries. They are being exhibited in these rooms until the end of 1950, so that the directors of the other galleries can make their choice, and so that London's public and visitors can see them before their departure for the provinces.

The reopened rooms include the oak-panelled "Dutch Cabinet," and the majority of this first selection are pictures by Dutch artists of the 17th century. Pictures of other schools will be available later.

Christmas Fare For The Army

Christmas fare for the Army at home and abroad—including Korea—will include turkey, pork, mince pies, plum pudding, chocolates, fruit and beer.

Tins of turkey and ham, mince meat, chocolates, cigars and cigarettes are being flown out to Korea by NAAFI, who are also catering for troops at home and in Germany. Units abroad will also receive regimental Christmas cards by air.

"We start preparing for the following Christmas every January," said a NAAFI official, "and it takes every day of 11 months to obtain supplies. Extra Christmas food for the troops in Korea is being sent in all right time. The men will also get whisky, gin and other spirits."

A War Office official said the Ministry of Food would release enough eggs to allow one for every man on Christmas Day. Pork will be issued instead of beef this year. To meet cost of extras, the authorities have made a special grant of 9d. per man. This is in addition to money provided by regimental funds.

New Tanker Fleet

The City of London arms will be carried on the bridge of each ship of a new £6,000,000 fleet of British tankers.

First of the tankers, London Pride, is already at sea. The London Enterprise is due to sail in a fortnight.

Eight more ships, to be completed by the end of 1952, will have London in their name.

Each of the 12,000-ton tankers can carry 15,000 tons of oil. When they sail from this country they may not make a homeward voyage more than once a year.

Mr Sedgwick, of London and Overseas Freighters, Ltd., owners of the fleet, said that the tankers, for charter to the big oil companies, might carry oil anywhere in the world—as the Norwegians have done for years.

FERD'NAND

A New Leash on Life

By Mik



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Beauty Treatment For Hands

By HELEN FOLLETT

It is a general belief that beautiful, shapely hands are a gift from the gods. Yet many women whose mitts did not seem to qualify have gone in for improvements that have changed them considerably. They have created an illusion of beauty by clever and patient toil.

Awkward movements will make even lovely hands look clumsy. So take note of how your hands behave, especially when you shake hands when greeting another person. The arm should be held slightly higher than the wrist, fingers held closely together. Let your hand appear to be graceful and cordial with a light pressure. A flabby, fishy hand is something of a horror, certainly does not express friendliness.

Protective Measures

It is no trick to keep the skin surface smooth and of clear colour. The secret of course is in taking protective measures so the flesh will not be subjected to dirt or harsh cleaning agents. It takes only a minute to apply a lotion, and that should be done every day, rain or shine.

Those milky, semi-liquid preparations have wonderful healing properties. Most of them are made of gum tragacanth, glycerine and rosewater, ingredients that make for perfection of surface and colour.

At least once a week give yourself a hand massage, and there will be no chance of your hands looking old before their time.

Doing Circles

In beauty shops where hand and arm treatments are given the operator treats each finger and thumb separately, starting at the base, thumb on the upper surface, finger below, doing circles with the thumb right up to the pink nail where the cream is forced into the surrounding cuticle.

Knuckles, susceptible to dust that the housewife is ever fighting, should have special attention, and the wrist and elbow must also get a few licks of the nourishing cream.

During this treatment is a good time to use the orange wood stick to detach the cuticle around your talons. If allowed to cling, you will be tormented with hangnails.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Why Weeping Willows Weep

—Knarf and Hanid Wanted to Know—

By MAX TRELL

"NOW why does the weeping willow weep?" repeated Ting-a-Ling. "Is that what you asked me, my dears?"

Knarf and Hanid, the Shadows with the turned-about names, both nodded. They had come down to the bottom of the Blue China Plate where Ting-a-Ling lived. It was while they were walking along the edge of the pond that they noticed the large weeping willow trees. Then Knarf asked how the trees had got such a strange sad name.

"Of course," Hanid said as she took another look at the willows, "they aren't really weeping, Ting-a-Ling. I mean, there aren't any real tears."

"Oh, but there are!" said Ting-a-Ling. "Early in the morning, when the dew is on the grass, you can see tears on the leaves of the willows. Or perhaps those tears are drops of dew, too. Nevertheless they look like tears."

Knarf and Hanid and Ting-a-Ling had turned and were starting back for home when Ting-a-Ling smiled and began:

A Long Time

"Now it was quite a long time ago when the willow first started weeping. In those days it didn't look quite the way it looks now. Instead of having branches that dip down, all its branches stood straight up and straight out, just like the branches in most other trees do. Except for the pointed shape of its leaves you might—if you didn't look closely—have mistaken it for a locust tree, or a black cherry, or a bald cypress, or a sumac."

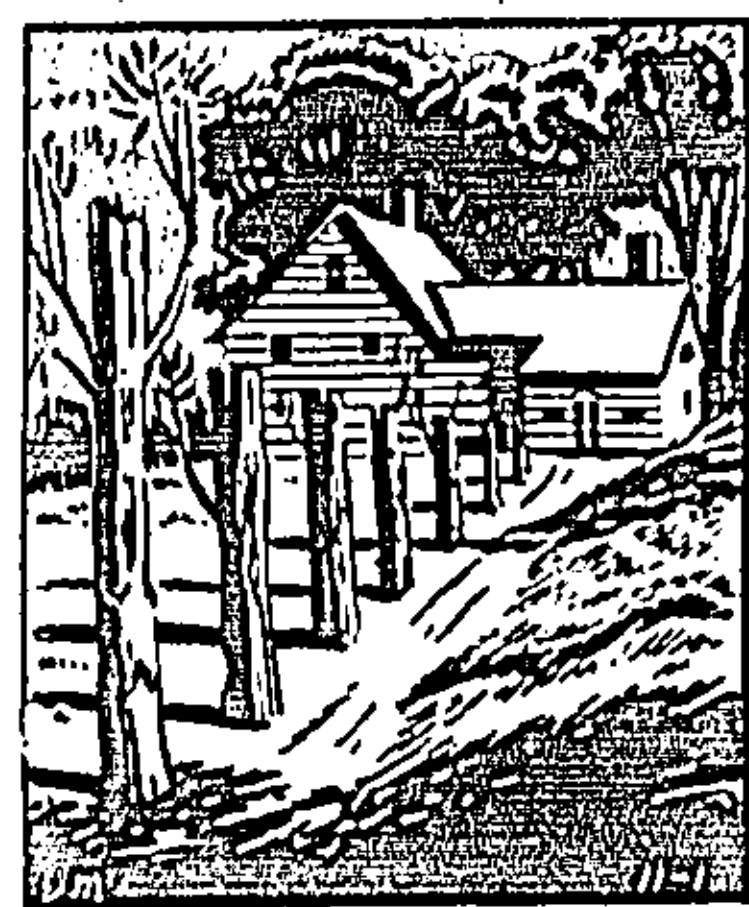
Knarf and Hanid weren't quite sure that they knew what any of those other trees looked like. They probably wouldn't have mistaken the willow for anything. But they let Ting-a-Ling continue without interrupting him.

"So this willow was a very happy tree. When the sun shone, its leaves sparkled like slender green fingers. When it rained, the willow stood straight with the wet. But when the wind blew the leaves tossed and danced for joy. There never was a happier tree. But one day—"

Ting-a-Ling paused. He sighed.

"What happened... one day?" Knarf asked.

"One day," said Ting-a-Ling, "a wood-cutter came along. He had a shining ax. He stood and looked up at the willow. The willow stood and looked down at the wood-cutter. Then the wood-cutter chopped the willow tree down."



The posts led up to the door.

"Oh!" exclaimed Hanid. "What an awful thing to do!"

Ting-a-Ling smiled a little. "Perhaps it was, my dear one. And then again, perhaps it wasn't. A tree must grow. And a man must have a house to live in, and so he must chop down trees. And the willow was chopped down. The wood-cutter took the willow away. But he left the stump of the willow in the ground."

Different Things

"And then," said Ting-a-Ling, "the wood-cutter made different things that he needed. Some of the willow he made into furniture. Some he made into boards. Some he used in his fire to cook dinner for his wife and his children and himself. And the pieces that he had left he stuck back into the ground—large pieces as tall as posts. He stuck them in the ground on either side of the path that led up to the door of his house."

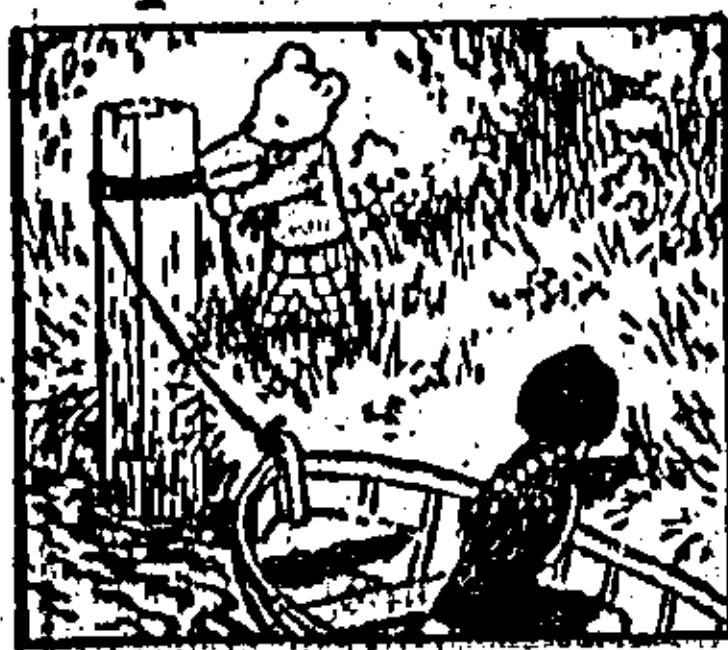
"Like a fence?" suggested Knarf.

"Yes, exactly like a fence," said Ting-a-Ling. "And do you know what happened? These posts that he stuck in the ground took root and grew into willows. And the stump that he had left in the forest, near the brook, did not die. It grew new branches and leaves again. Only there was one thing different. Instead of looking happy the old willow and all the new willows that grew from the posts, looked so sorrowful that whenever people saw them, they instantly knew that they were weeping."

Ting-a-Ling was silent. So were Knarf and Hanid. But suddenly Knarf said: "But other trees are also cut down, Ting-a-Ling, oaks and maples and pine trees. And none of them do any weeping, do they?"

"No," said Ting-a-Ling. But he didn't explain why they didn't. He just kept on walking.

Rupert's Climbing Adventure—40



Peddling at six on the can, Pauline saw the wood-cutter come. Then she saw the willow tree fall down.



way towards the end of the bridge, keeping well under cover. Nothing seems to happen as he walks in. The dog is a bit of a coward.

WOMANSENSE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Your Sewing Scrapbook

by Mary Brooks Picken

Practical Mother-and-Daughter Aprons and Scarves

A HAPPY fashion, this—for mother and daughter to wear garments of same type of fabric and in same colour.

Here two aprons can be made from 2½ yds. fabric and be lovely as can be and good for many, many partnership wearings. Checked gingham, dotted swiss, satin—so many fabrics are appropriate.

Measure on Solvage

Straighten fabric. Measure on solvage 27" for mother's apron. Tear across. Next, measure and tear off 18" for daughter's. Remaining square makes scarves and pockets.

Tear the strings and waistbands off lengthwise edges of two apron pieces, as in A and B, making each strip 3" wide.

Fold scarf square diagonally, as in C. Cut on folded line for mother's scarf.

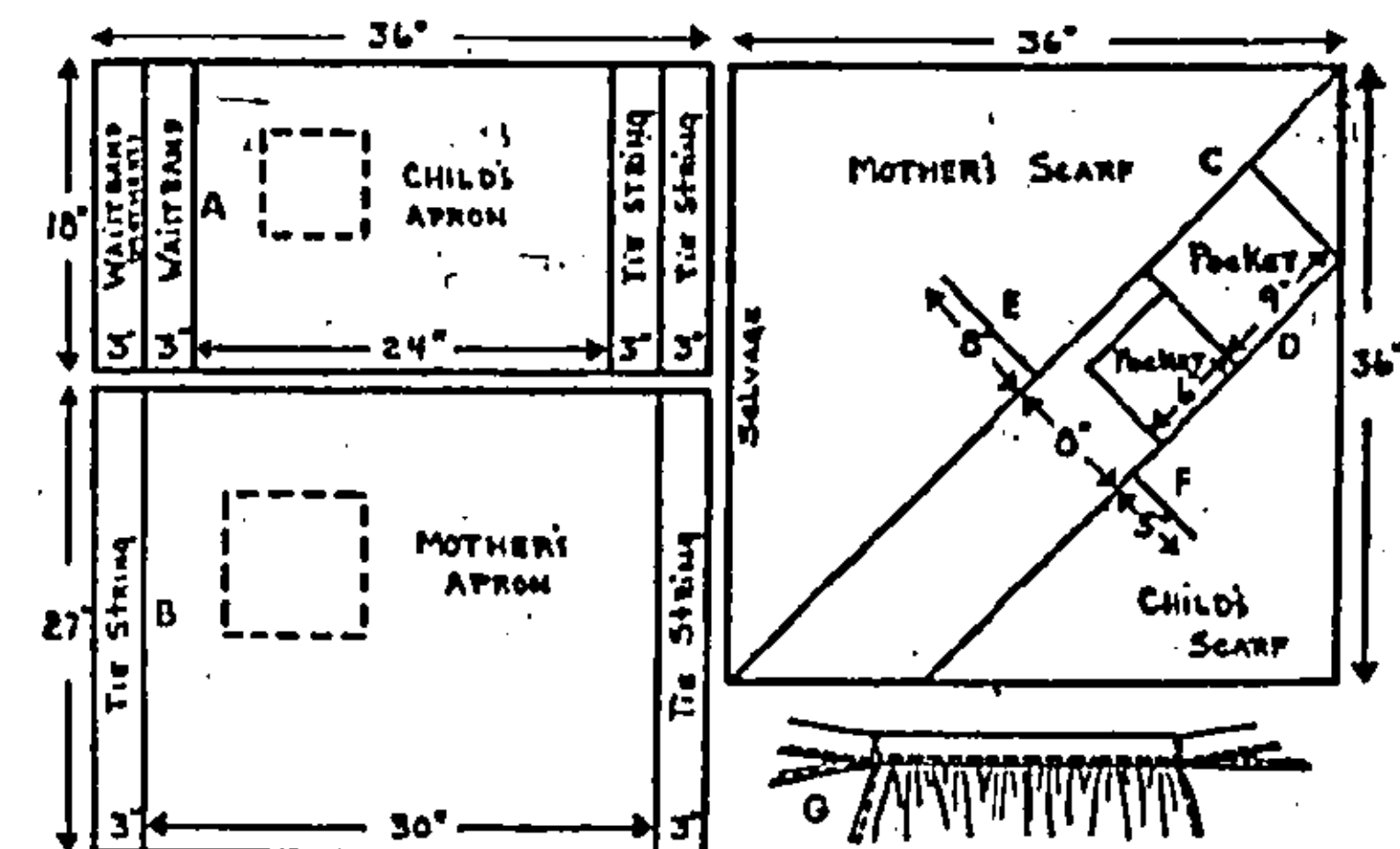
On remaining half of square, turn another fold 8" deep on true bias; cut on this fold line (D).

The small triangular piece becomes child's scarf. Bias piece cut out from centre makes pockets for both aprons in proportions shown.

Fold scarves in half to form triangles. Cut in on fold from bias edge 8" and 5", as at E and F. When scarves are worn, these corners roll back to make revers.

Narrow Machine Hem

Making Scarves and Aprons: Hem all edges of both scarves, using a narrow machine hem.



Fashion Changes Among Teeners

ONE of the interesting signs of the times is that the soda fountain set is considering "Sloppy Joe" shoes as old hat, also blue jeans and flying shirt-tails. Why the young fry ever came to assume these unbecoming disguises of feminine loveliness is beyond adult understanding. Teen-agers are taking to fluff-stuff and smart attire, which make them easier on the public eye and cause their parents to believe that perhaps they will grow to be humans after all.

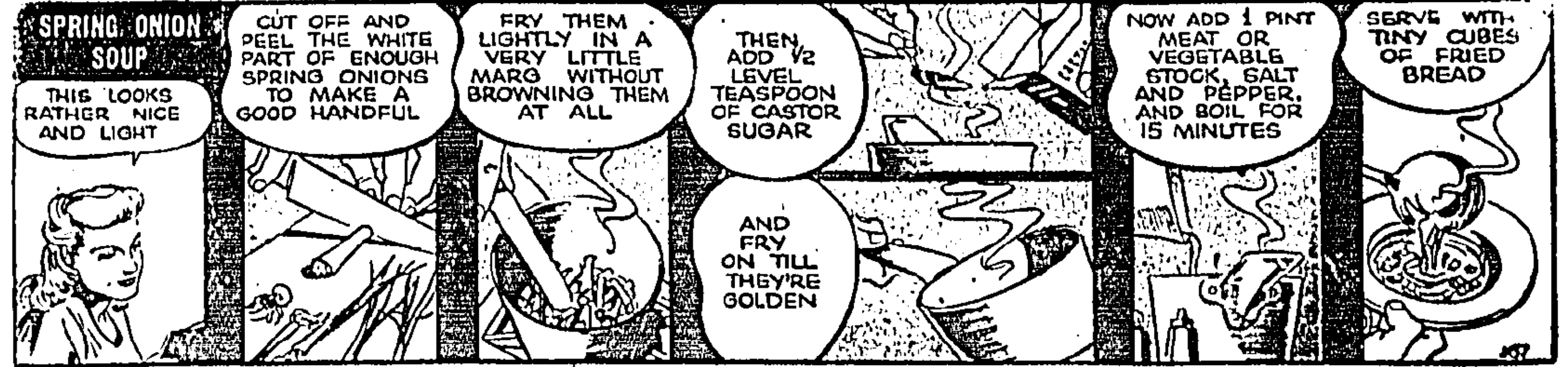
Shoe clerks report that youthful buyers are showing interest in the kind of shoes that make for presentable looking feet. They have a wide choice among trim oxfords, mocassins and ghillie type shoes. Criss-cross laces, pretty as those on a dancer's slippers, smartly buckled straps and fanciful cut-outs contribute to that grown-up look that, at long last, is having an appeal. Shock absorbing leather soles provide foot ease which is important for active young feet.

Foot specialists have deplored the sloppy footwear of the past, as it affords no support of any kind, inclines the growing foot to spread, lose shape and suffer strain. It did not bode well for the future, when young girls will graduate into the detestable, want above everything else to have pretty little feet. Mothers of young children should be foot-wise. If a child doesn't like walking, is not inclined to join in outdoor games the trouble may be found in improper foot hygiene or the wrong kind of shoes. Chances are little Susie outgrows her shoes before she outgrows them, so has toes in a huddle or toes pushed too far forward, causing discomfort. Remember there are fifty-two bones in their little feet all in a hurry to grow up and support the other 164 bones of the cherubic body.

Pediatricists say you must teach your child to walk with toes pointing straight ahead; that you should have the child's feet measured when selecting shoes, that flexible leather soles are indispensable.

Royal Grandeur

The Queen's dressmaker specially designed these exquisite creations for Her Majesty and her two daughters at the banquet given at Buckingham Palace in honour of the state visit of Queen Juliana of Holland.



Siamese Lines Give Spring Play Clothes New Colour

SILKS take over one S American Spring collection of play clothes for day and evening. Designer Tina Leser, who travels widely studying and observing native costumes, acknowledges Siam for much that gives this collection great vitality.

Hand woven silks in dim pinks and amethysts; others in exotic combinations of colour like cerise and yellow-green, are in a plaid silk for a long coat that will unquestionably be one of the display fashion pieces of the season; stunning prints taken from Oriental turban cloths, screen-processed on silk shantung; Italian stripes for blouses or skirts; in the monologues besides silk linen, there is a silk covert cloth which as its name implies, offers something new for quality shorts, slacks and skirts.

Introducing The Panung Shirt

Siamese costume ideas are in abundance, and because of their slim character, lend themselves easily to the current trend. Miss Leser develops slim-length trousers pleated low to taper into a band, usually ornamental; trouser-skirts, from the Siamese, look like a straight skirt slightly flared by creased pleats at front and back which disguise the pants formation; and for a narrow skirt, a kind of wrap-around, in dinner length, the panung skirt is introduced.

In this group, many of them separates, a blouse with wrap-around sash is featured, in any one of the exotic prints,

to be worn variously with skirts or trousers. The Choli which is a sleeveless, closely fitted shirt, has the advantage of being very short—no bulk below the waist.

Cinched-In Waistline

The high-waisted cinched-in waistline of polo trousers is used in many shorts and slacks, with double-buckled closing for the strapped waistline. Bathing suits go along with other fashions in boasting new fabrics, one in a domino-blocked elasticized satin, dull and shiny; also in elasticized shantung. A Siamese knotted drape catching the legs on each side, gives literally a new twist to the one-piece bathing suit.

For those who know the shapeless character of the Muumuu, more familiarly associated with Hawaii, Tina Leser has a surprise dress in the derivation she has done in satin, tucked and embroidered.

ed, for a timely 1951 one-piece afternoon or dinner dress.

Victorian Suggestions

Her Oriental-design penchant notwithstanding, Tina Leser brings some Victorian suggestions in this collection. The series of white pique scalloped dresses with pastel ribbon trimming is the number one idea in these, followed closely by the little pastel bolero outfits in linen or silk, with contrasting bandings that look like early-century yachting costumes; also Swiss organdie embroidered dance skirts over coloured satin skirts.

Long stole scarfs are tremendously important; in the Siamese group, bordered silks to complete the dress, in self-colour with metal decoration. With bathing suit, there are long woolen stoles, fringed from deep borders of drawwork.

QUICK HOME HAIR TINT

Home hair tinting known as "Tintair" is in the London cosmetic market. A tint—any one of 12 shades—is completed within a few minutes after application, it is said. The product can be used over hair previously coloured with dyes or shampoo tints. It is claimed. The tint is applied with an ordinary paint or tooth brush, allowed to remain on for a few minutes, then the hair is shampooed and set. The product was developed by Donu Edmond in his New York salon.

Handmade cut-glass bottles of perfume were presented to ballerinas of the Sadler's Wells Co. for their tour of the United States and Canada by a well-

known cosmetic house. Members of the corps de ballet are being presented with flasks of toilet powder.

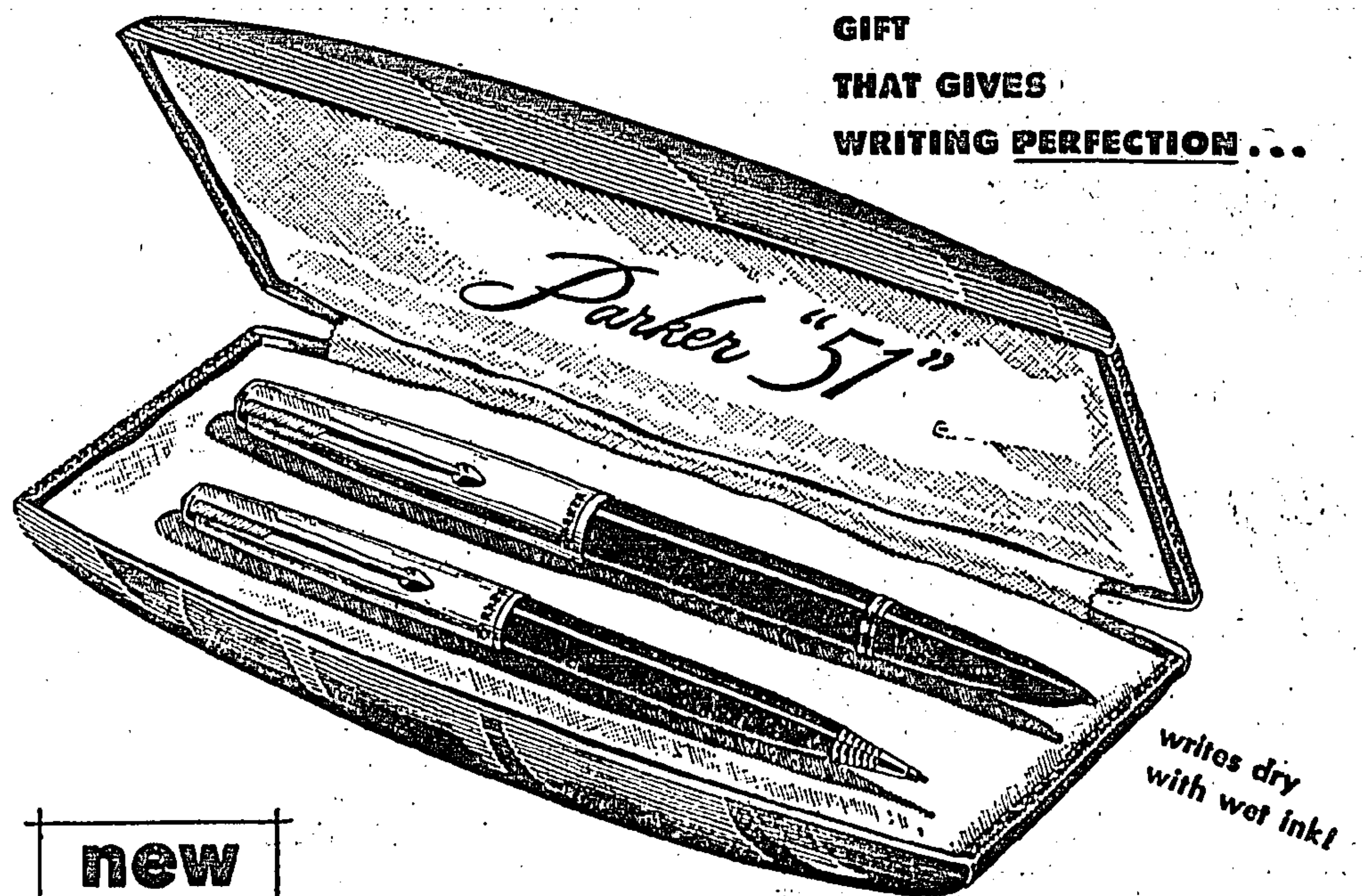
This firm, which exports its English flower perfumes to America, reports the choice of the five ballerinas is varied. Moira Shearer has chosen "Honey-suckle," Pamela May, "Sandalwood," Violetta Elvin and Beryl Grey have both taken "Malmalson" while Margot Fonteyn and Ninette de Valois, director of the company, have chosen "Special 127," said to have been created by James Floris last century for one of the Russian Grand Dukes. As earlier reported, the ballet dancers are wearing all-British wardrobes off-stage, and carrying British accessories.

SMART COMBINATIONS



By ALICE ALDEN

A well-handled combination of fine tweed and supple suede makes a jaunty costume for country or informal town wear, especially if glowing colours are chosen. Silks who does suede so deftly has designed an unusual three-piece suit of suede and tweed. It consists of a topper, skirt and a bag which is reversible. The full box jacket is nicely belted or boxy. Tweed forms the collar, wide cuffs and facing of the jacket, and is used for the skirt.



new

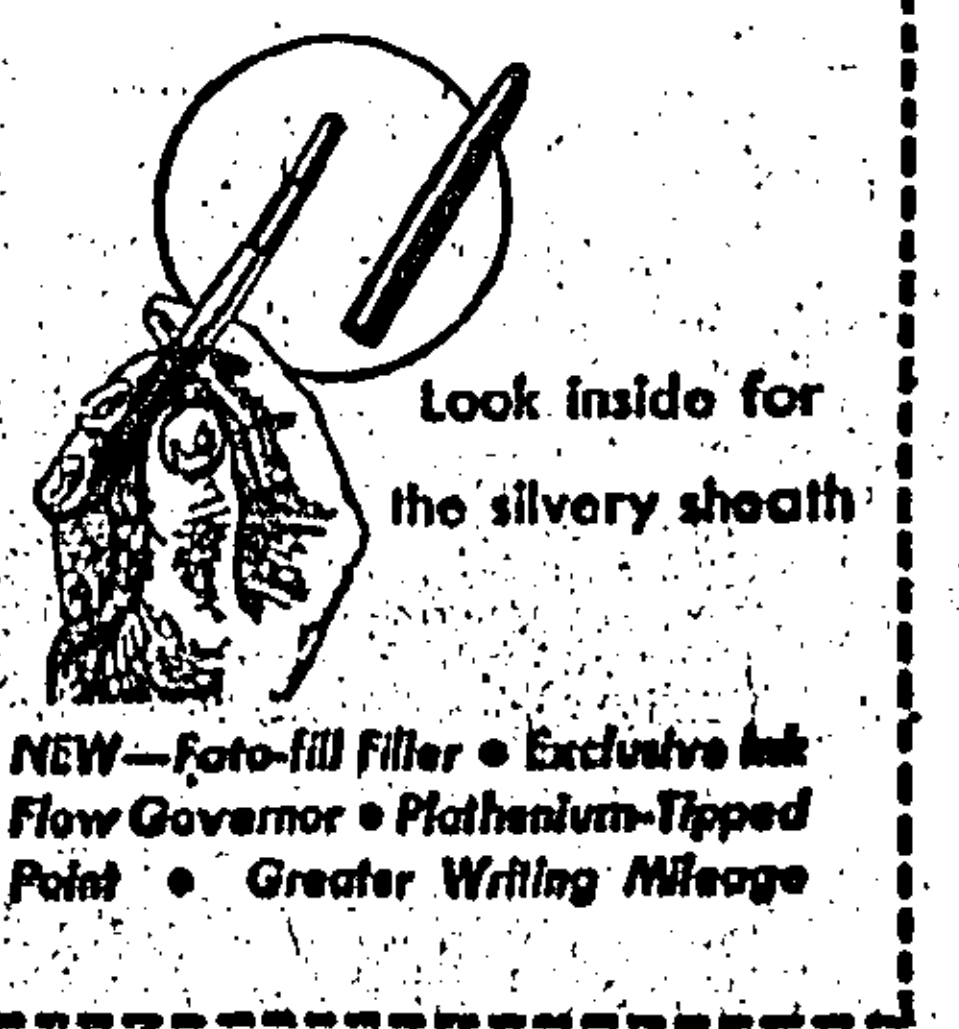
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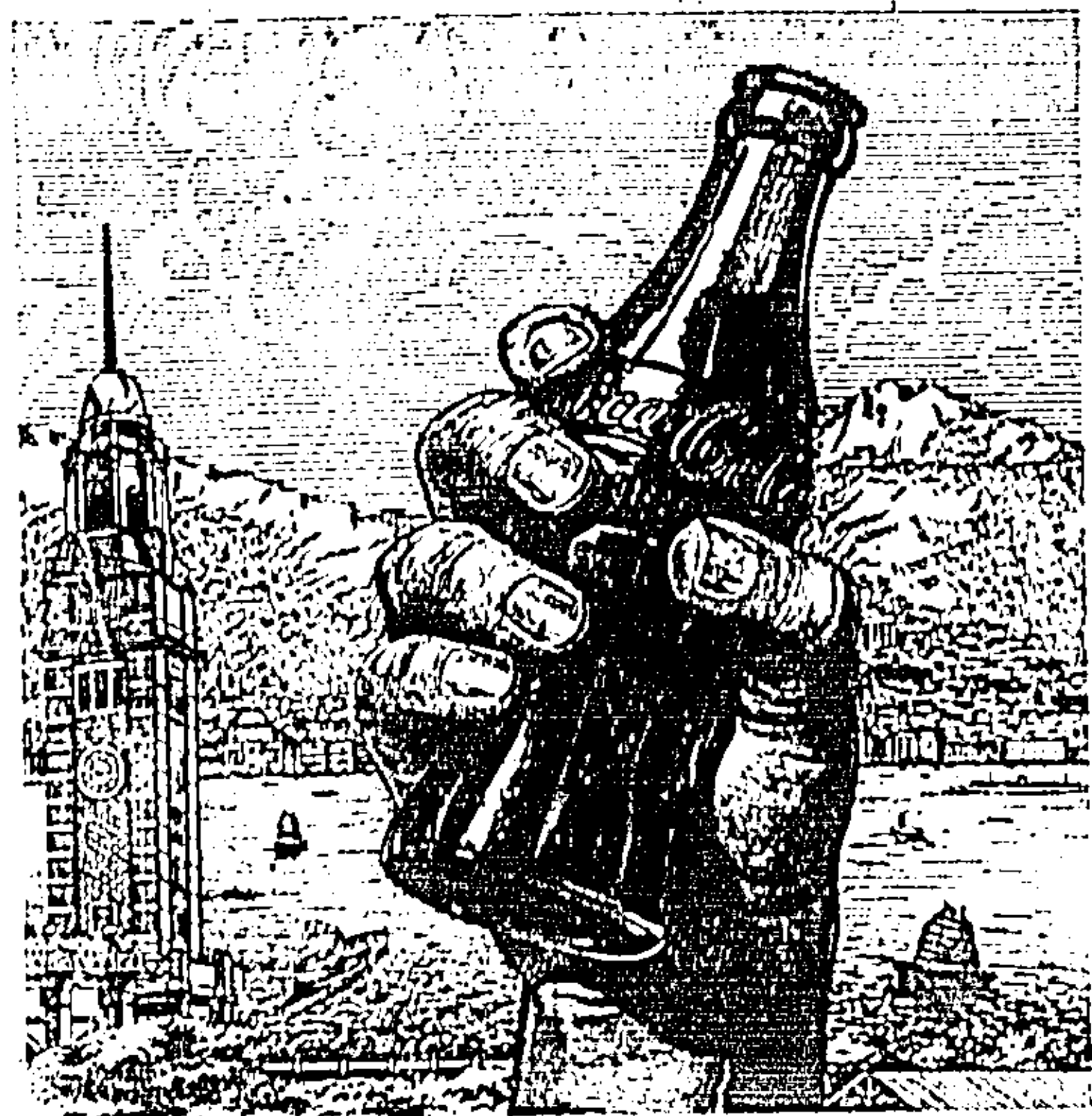
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A FRIENDLY GAME OF CHEMIN DE FER

HE was a gambler. I will not mention his name because, although it is a long time ago, somebody might still be distressed to be reminded of the whole story. It will be enough to call him The Gambler.

By profession he was a bookmaker, although anybody less like the popular idea of a bookmaker it would be difficult to imagine. His appearance was remarkably distinguished; he was tall, good-looking and extremely well-dressed, but his most outstanding characteristic was an unwavering imperturbability.

I do not think I have ever seen a man with such a sphinx-like countenance. He must have been a perfect gambler. The other person concerned in the subsequent trial was a young American named Doyle, who had come to England and soon became a well-known member of the sporting fraternity.

Quick wit

He was a good-looking young man with a pleasant manner and a quick wit, and he rapidly acquired popularity among a large circle of friends.

He lived extravagantly, although the source of his income was never clearly defined beyond the fact that it was probably derived from the race-course.

Doyle had been a friend of Danny Maher, the American jockey, who at that time was achieving outstanding success on the English Turf, and for some time Doyle had profited by backing his mounts.

Doyle became acquainted with Solly Joel, the millionaire race-horse owner—Maher rode many of Joel's horses—and was soon included among Joel's racing friends.

He was a constant visitor at Joel's home, was a guest aboard his yacht, and as a result became well known to the whole Joel family, including Woolf, a son.

For some time Solly Joel was a good and generous friend to Doyle; it was a few years later that he became a vindictive enemy.

During the first World War Woolf Joel was seriously injured in an aeroplane crash with the Royal Flying Corps and was in hospital for some time.

London leave

When sufficiently recovered he came to London for a short period of leave, and during that leave he again met Doyle.

Woolf was dining at a restaurant when Doyle spoke to him "as an old friend of your father." Young Joel was not aware that Doyle was at that time in a precarious financial position.

Doyle was sympathetic about the flying accident and offered his services, as an older man, to help young Joel spend a pleasant leave. An appointment was made to dine together a few nights later, and the dinner duly took place.

Thereafter events followed an almost stereotyped course. At dinner Doyle pointed out various well-known personalities in the room and finally called attention to a solitary figure dining in the corner. It was The Gambler.

Doyle described him as a well-known bookmaker and a particularly interesting companion, and introduced the pair.

Luck changed

The Gambler was invited to join them at dinner and in due course suggested that both Doyle and young Joel should go round to his flat for a drink. Then came the suggestion of a friendly game of chemin de fer.

They played. At first the stakes were low and young Joel won. Then Doyle suggested they be increased and the midnight luck changed. By morning Woolf Joel had lost between £3,000 and £4,000.

Doyle complained loudly that he, too, had been a loser

—to the extent of a couple of thousand pounds.

To what extent the game had been dishonest it is impossible to say. In all probability young Joel had about as much chance of winning from two such experienced gamblers, even in a straight game, as he had of reaching the moon.

But, whatever the nature of the game, it was disastrous for Woolf Joel. Naturally he had not the money to pay, so he gave a cheque. The cheque was promptly discounted with a money-lender and in due course the matter came to the ears of Solly Joel.

No emotion

As was to be expected, the father was furious. That his son should have been inveigled into the hands of two gamblers was bad enough, but that he had befriended more than he could overlook. He decided to prosecute them both for a conspiracy to cheat at cards.

THE CASE-BOOK OF SIR PATRICK HASTINGS, KC

CHAPTER TEN

The case for the defence was brought to me and it did not seem to possess any particular interest or unusual feature. It was just an ordinary case of card-sharping.

The trial took place at the Central Criminal Court and I came into court as the prisoners were placed in the dock. Everybody seemed to be staring at The Gambler.

He was certainly the most remarkable figure I have ever seen in any dock. He seemed to be devoid of any human sentiment. From first to last he never showed the slightest feeling or emotion.

His face was the colour of ivory. He might almost have been taken for a statue of some well-known actor or other distinguished person. He reminded me instinctively of the hero of Bret Hart's famous gambling stories. He was certainly not a man his father would select as a gaming companion for his son.

C. F. Gill, K.C., conducted the prosecution, and he gave full dramatic force to the somewhat sordid story. He painted a picture of the young flying officer, badly injured in the war, coming home to find himself the victim of two heartless gamblers.

From the outset it was fairly obvious that the result was almost a foregone conclusion. The only possible interest in the case would lie in the cross-examination of The Gambler himself.

Old school

Gill was a prosecutor of the old school. The moderation and restraint which marks the prosecuting counsel of today were unknown to him. An extremely able cross-examiner, he was accustomed to use every artifice to obtain a conviction and he employed them all.

I was more than curious to see if he would be able to goad my client into some display of feeling—of anger or fear; but he was completely unsuccessful.

While The Gambler was in the witness-box his demeanour remained precisely the same as when standing in the dock. He was perfectly calm and perfectly courteous; his only indication of being affected by Gill's taunts was merely that some of his answers showed a slightly amused contempt.

His demeanour was irreproachable, and he was quite frank in all his answers.

Certainly, he had, invited young Joel to his flat; certainly he had suggested a game of cards—that was how he lived—but to suggest that there was anything dishonest in the play was utterly ridiculous.

There was no need for any of this. He did not; he merely stated a fact, and then the warder took him away.

Why had he told me that story? Had he thought it would be a good move to try and arouse my sympathy, or was the whole thing pure invention?

But I made some inquiries and found it was quite true that he had a son fighting in Palestine.

I was younger in those days, and perhaps a trifle sentimental, but whatever the reason, the case began to worry me. He had appeared so confident; that his account would succeed and perhaps I had missed some point which would turn the scale; but I could not find one. However much I worried, I felt that the case was hopeless and I knew I should be glad when it was over.

Unmoved

As I went into the Appeal Court some weeks later, an usher gave me a message. Once more the prisoner had asked me to see him. This time I almost refused. I did not want to be burdened with any more sentimental stories, but in the end I consented and saw him in a room beneath the court.

He was exactly the same. He showed no sign of anxiety or emotion of any kind; he was utterly unmoved. He thanked me for coming to see him.

"I am afraid this case has worried you," he said. "I beg you not to worry any more. This morning the Governor of the prison told me that my son has been shot down in Palestine and killed. It is quite immaterial now what happens in my appeal."

The appeal failed completely; as I knew it would; and once more The Gambler showed no sign either of disappointment or distress.

I never saw him again, but I have often wondered whether his face remained equally unperturbed at the moment when the Prison Governor told him that his son was dead.

TOMORROW:
Royal Mail Steam
Packet Accounts

HE "DOODLED" CRYSTAL PALACE ON A PALACE ON A PALACE ON A

By J. W. Taylor

DERBY is the town most intimately concerned with the appeal to long-established firms in the Midlands and the North to search their treasures for any items which they showed in the Great Exhibition of 1851 so that they may be included in the display of souvenirs at the Festival of Britain next year, for it was in a Derby office that the famous blotting-pad sketch of Crystal Palace, the home of the Exhibition, was made.

The Exhibition was a landmark in British social and industrial history, and the Victoria and Albert Museum authorities want more of such curiosities as the 70 to 80-bladed knife which a Sheffield firm has offered from its original Great Exhibition display to add to their collection of Exhibition pieces they are showing at the 1951 Festival. They already have the blotting-pad sketch, Prince Albert's season ticket for the Exhibition, and an enormous Indian throne presented to Queen Victoria.

It was only a chance episode that inspired that blotting-pad sketch. The Works and Ways Committee of the Midland Railway had assembled in Derby to try an offending pointsman, and Sir Joseph Paxton presided. His colleagues thought he was busy taking notes of the proceedings, but actually he was "doodling" on his blotting-pad.

The pointsman having been dealt with, Paxton showed his astonished associates his "dood-

ling" design for "the great industrial building to be erected in Metropolis." A few days later plans from the blotting-pad rough design were drawn up, and Paxton set out for London. He was lucky to have as travelling companion Robert Stephenson, son of the great George Stephenson, railway pioneer, of Chesterfield. Robert knew Paxton as his father's great friend and supporter, and being one of the most influential members of the Exhibition's building committee, was at once a powerful ally, which resulted in Paxton's design being accepted.

The son of a Derby doctor, Sir Charles Fox—like Paxton he was knighted when the Exhibition closed—was the contractor who had the task of interpreting Paxton's "doodling" in terms of the magnificent steel and glass structure of the Crystal Palace. Sir Stafford Northcote, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had been educated at the local Shirley Vicarage, was one of the three secretaries to the Royal Commission which organised the Exhibition, and Rowland Ordis, of Derby, one of the most famous engineers of his generation, made the greater part of the working drawings. Samuel Plimsoll, whose name is perpetuated in the Plimsoll line for ships, was the honorary secretary. Sixteen years later Plimsoll became MP for Derby.

Another Derby link was Medieval Court, one of the outstanding features of the Exhibition and for which Augustus Welby Pugin, the architect of St. Augustine's, was the designer. The Exhibition brought fame and

Divorce could be laughed out of court

By IRIS ASHLEY

I HAVE just had a good laugh at Love and Marriage; and I suspect that, if we could find a bit more laughter in the matter, there would be less divorce.

It might be a good idea to nationalise the Michael Denisons (she is, of course, known to theatre and film fans as Dulcie Gray). They have more than ten years of real marriage to their credit and in the play "The Fourposter," which I saw at London's Ambassadors Theatre, they really do seem to show us to ourselves from the married viewpoint; and very funny we look.

Not everybody can see themselves all the time, of course, but there is a moment of "that's us!" for almost anyone.

The Agnes and Michael of the play take you through a marriage from Edwardian bridal night to wistful Darby and Joan finish. Is it a happy marriage? Yes; but not by some miracle is it achieved.

The lifebelt

ONLY through all the alternating selfishness, irritation, misunderstanding, and downright ugly moments of real living does it emerge triumphant. Humour, it would seem, is love's lifebelt.

Among other things every mother recognises with an inward smile are the remarkably fluctuating waves of paternal feeling.

When he is baffled by youthful behaviour father becomes a partner. "We must speak to the children, dear..." (meaning "You must tell them what I think"). When it is a question of prizes won or scholarships, papa boasts "What do you think MY boy has done...?"

Or if, as in the play, a gin bottle is discovered in a 16-year-old's drawer, it is "Agnes, look what I found in YOUR son's room!"

The beginning of this marriage gets off on what Freud would undoubtedly say was the beautifully wrong foot.

Here is the shy little Edwardian bride, all in white, alone for the first time with her husband and a fourposter. Clearly she would like either to go home to mother or else have a dash of cavalier to sweep her off her feet. Actually, her nice young groom, being terrified of doing or saying the wrong thing, appears to be sewn into his clothes and rooted to the spot where he stands.

In theory it is not like that today, but for some who are young and shy it will always be much the same. Marriage is seldom what you expect.

Whether we like it or not, we have to acknowledge that, on the average, men are naturally polygamous. We can't condone the idea socially any more than we accept other items of less attractive human behaviour. However, it is necessary to meet up with this weakness on occasions.

To many a woman the discovery of unfaithfulness is the end—no matter how much she herself was a contributory cause.

After about 12 years of marriage our Agnes, while most engaging in appearance, has undoubtedly become something of a nut.

Suddenly Michael tells her he loves another woman; someone who is interested in the book he is writing, who is willing to share him with his work. That stops her prating voice, and turns her pale.

No tears

MICHAEL (who would really rather go on loving his wife if only she'd let him) is anxious. "Are you going to faint?" he asks.

"Certainly not," he is told. "I didn't faint when the children had bumps or measles, did I?"

"This," she says, setting her chin, "... is so ordinary. It belongs in the medicine chest of marriage..."

No tears, no scene, no clinging vine. She thought of all the things any woman would think about the Other Woman. She also considered the prospect of life without Michael and didn't like it much. So in simple words, she shut up... and won.

Would the Divorce Court have been so much better, do you think, and maybe another husband and the same thing all over again?

Somewhere I read that a man says: "Twenty years ago, when I was in my prime..." and a woman says: "Twenty years ago? Why, I was in my prime!" There you have one of the later marriage hurdles. Men pursue women; women pursue youth. Any husband who will keep on telling his wife how young she looks may be a hero, but he'll reap rich rewards. If he doesn't she is apt to go out and make a fool of herself trying to prove it.

Two people

AGNES, at 43, was all for Beginning Life Again. She is saved from this rather exhausting project because Michael is belatedly understanding. He makes her laugh; not in the way he intends, it is true, but deeply and sincerely she laughs at him, and through him, at herself.

Was it a happy marriage? Well, it was the story of two people who loved each other and learned how to live together. The first part is easy enough; that last bit is where we seem to need lessons from the Denisons.

A FAVOURITE ON ALL TABLES



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POP—IT'S NEARLY
EIGHTY IN
THE SHADE!



Mad dogs and Englishmen!

U.S. ANSWER TO INFLATION

By Robert Waithman

WASHINGTON. THE United States, like Britain, is now looking into the face of a great danger: the danger of inflation.

Prices here have risen ferociously since the Korean war began.

And in the United States, as in Britain, a long, expensive rearmament programme, wasteful and unwanted, forced on the world by the men in the Kremlin, is just beginning.

The plans of the United States Government to meet and overcome this peril of inflation are now emerging. They are revealed to be based on a new idea: an idea that had not been thought up ten years ago, when the last big rearmament drive was moving into high gear.

THE idea in its simplest form is that the United States this time can produce itself out of inflation. Some controls, some allocation of scarce materials, some increased taxation will be needed.

But they will be designed, not with the aim of restricting and

sharing out the goods on which the people will be able to spend their money, but with the idea of assisting the speedy production of more and more goods.

It is the wonderful American experience of the last ten years that has inspired this new thinking. The discovery of these ten years has been that America had never previously known its own strength.

Any economist would have been decided if he had said before the war that, in the five years from 1939 to 1944, the total annual output of the United States would be increased by 76 percent. But that is what happened; and in considerable measure the war was won because it happened.

AS the war was ending most of the high officials in the economic side in Washington thought that hard times would come as soon as the shooting stopped. One of the Government's men here, reminiscing in private the other day, said: "First we were afraid of inflation. Then we were afraid of deflation. Then we didn't know what we were afraid of, but we thought there would be a recession. And still nothing bad has happened."

The national income, which the Department of Commerce calculates on the basis of pretty nearly everyone's earnings, had been 72.5 thousand million dollars in 1939. It was 133.8 thousand million dollars in 1944, the last full year of war. The decline in the next two years was a fraction of what had been expected, and in 1947 the national income leaped up to 201.7 thousand million dollars. Last year it was 216.3 thousand million dollars.

Now the big rearmament drive is beginning—the era of what people in Washington call the Grey Mobilisation: the twilight time between either a dawn or a darkness.

Its dangers to the economic life of America are plain to all. This is a time when huge profits are being made by the masters of industry and high and still higher wages are being demanded by the men.

During the first nine months of this year 1,000,000 workers were given wage increases. So high have profits been and so far have prices risen that the spectacle of employers who call in the unions and voluntarily offer them wage increases for which no demand had been made is now becoming commonplace.

Much of this is because labour is getting scarcer. In October unemployment in the United States was down to 1,940,000—lowest for two years.

BUT wage increases, the profits made out of speculation, the rapid upward course of commodity prices, the slower but not less ominous climb of wholesale prices—all these are pressing the nation towards inflation.

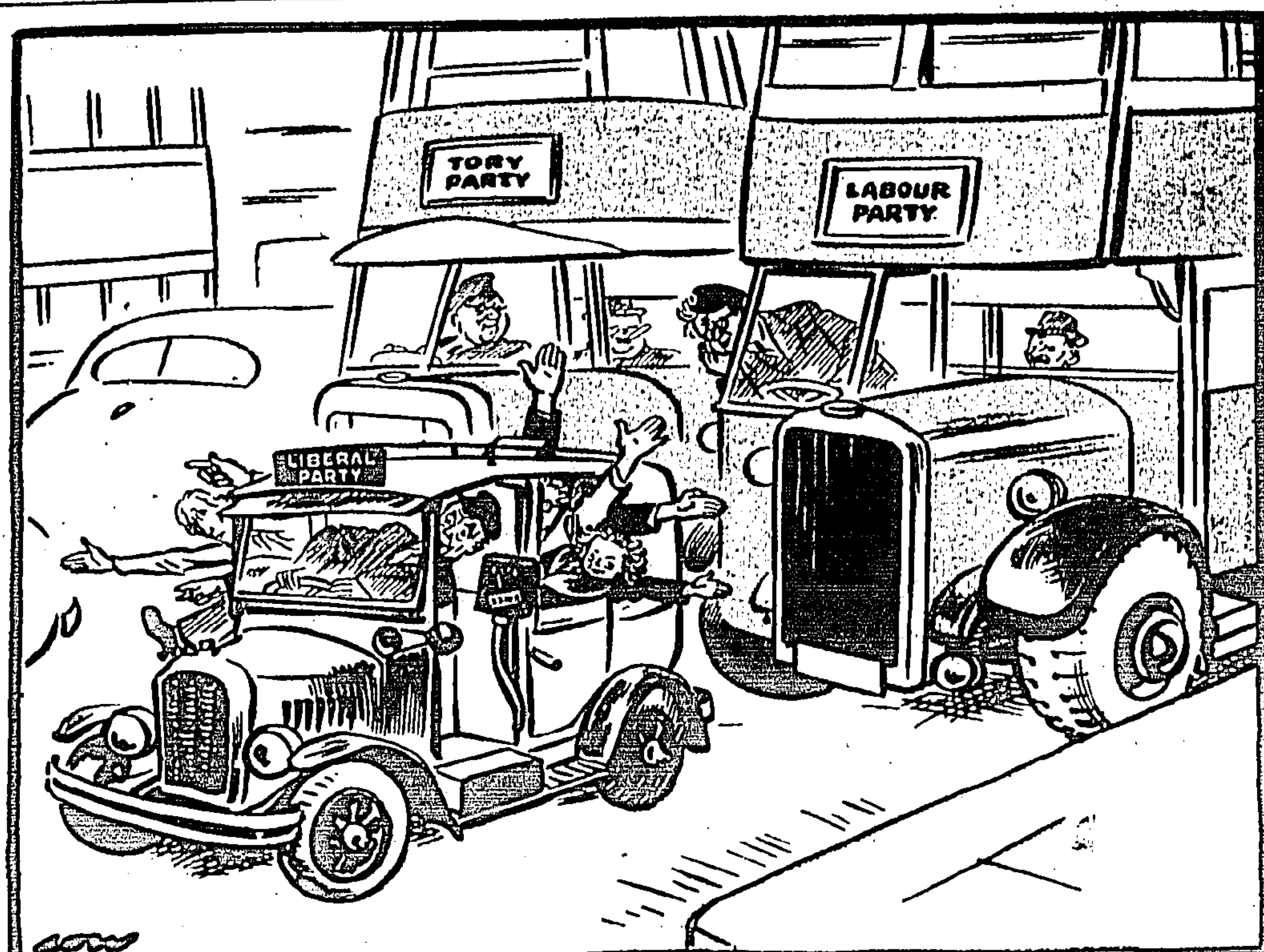
How is the pressure to be resisted? There are controls now on instalment buying—everyone is required to make bigger down-payments on houses and cars and refrigerators, and to pay off the balance in less time. There has been on the stiff increase in the income-tax rate, and there are stiffer taxes to come. Some scarce materials are being allocated, and some "luxury" buildings are being stopped.

But the Government's present effort is to avoid the "tough" controls—rationing, price ceilings, wage stabilisation formulas. The Government is putting its principal faith in the capacity of the United States to produce and produce enough for the war machine and the peace machine at home, enough for the free nations abroad which need American help, enough to keep shortages at arms' length and insure and extend the areas of plenty.

THE trade unions have joined the movement. Most of them have now learned the lesson that nothing is so certain to bring bigger wages as bigger production.

With this call for warnings, there must also be "dr. Alan Valentine," the "Economic Stabiliser," is saying, "Economy in essentials," a readiness in the American people, in the interest of peace and stability, to "reduce a little our concept of what we must have to be happy." With the right public response the new idea will not work, and the restrictions and controls everyone wants to avoid will become necessary. But if there is self-discipline and energy, production will do the job. So the Government believes.

And if the Government turns out to be right, if the American idea works, it will change a lot of thinking in the



STATE OF THE TRAFFIC AT WESTMINSTER

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CHAPTER 32 OF "THE HINGE OF FATE"

THE ASSASSINATION OF DARLAN

By Winston Churchill

ON Nov. 13, 1942, Gen. Eisenhower flew from Gibraltar to Algiers to take the responsibility for the bargain which Clark had just made with Darlan and assume direct control. The Allied commanders and officials on the spot were unanimous that Darlan was the only Frenchman who could rally North-West Africa to the Allies.

Giraud, whose power to command French allegiance was already exposed as a myth, had offered to work with Darlan when he heard of the German invasion of Unoccupied France. Darlan's authority was proved by the obedience to his "Cease fire" orders at Oran, in Morocco, and throughout Algeria. A final and formal agreement was therefore signed between Darlan and Eisenhower on the same day.

In London I thought that Eisenhower's action was overwhelmingly justified on military grounds. On Nov. 14 I sent him the following message: "Anything for the battle, but the politics will have to be sorted out later on."

Disquiet

As the facts of the Darlan agreement became known they caused widespread disquiet at home. I was conscious of the rising tide of opinion around me. I was grieved to find the success of my immense operation, overshadowed in the minds of many of my best friends by what seemed to them a base and squalid deal with one of our most bitter enemies. I considered their attitude unreasonable and not sufficiently considerate of the severities of the struggle and the lives of the troops.

As their criticisms became sharper I grew resentful, and also somewhat contemptuous of their sense of proportion; but I understood what was troubling them and felt it myself. The reaction in the United States was not so violent as in England, but many were agog. I did not think that President Roosevelt was sufficiently impressed with the surge of feeling, and certainly not of British feeling.

Deep currents

Former Naval Person to President Roosevelt. 17 Nov., 42 I ought to let you know what very deep currents of feeling are stirred by the arrangement with Darlan. The more I reflect upon it the more convinced I become that it can only be a temporary expedient, justifiable solely by the stress of battle. We must not overlook the serious political injury which may be done to our cause, not only in France but throughout Europe, by the feeling that we are ready to make terms with the local Quislings.

Darlan has an odious record. It is a fact that he has been involved in the French Navy's collaboration with the enemy.

yesterday that French sailors were sent to their death against your line of battle off Casablanca, and now, for the sake of power and office, Darlan plays the turncoat.

A permanent arrangement with Darlan or the formation of a Darlan Government in French North Africa would not be understood by the great masses of ordinary people, whose simple loyalties are our strength...

The President replied:

18 Nov., 42. I too have encountered the deep currents of feeling about Darlan. I felt I should act fast, so I have just given out a statement at my Press Conference which I hope you will like, and I trust it will be accepted at face value.

France's future

I was relieved by his public statement, which he had cabled me:

I have accepted General Eisenhower's political arrangements made for the time being in Northern and Western Africa. I thoroughly understand and approve the feeling in the United States and Great Britain and among the other United Nations that in view of the history of the past two years no permanent arrangement should be made with Admiral Darlan. People in the United Nations likewise would never understand the recognition of a re-constitution of the Vichy Government in France or in any French territory. We are opposed to Frenchmen who support Hitler and the Axis.

No one in our Army has any authority to discuss the future Government of France and the French Empire. The future French Government will be established, not by any individual in Metropolitan France or overseas, but by the French people themselves after they have been set free by the victory of the United Nations. The present arrangement in North and West Africa is only a temporary expedient, justified solely by the stress of battle...

Old proverb

The President kept me in touch with his own mood.

President to Prime Minister. 20 Nov., 42.

I told the Press yesterday in confidence an old Orthodox Church proverb used in the Balkans that appears applicable to our present Dardanian problem: "My child, drop it in your hand and walk with the devil until you have crossed the bridge."

In regard to North Africa and possibly additional future moves, I think you and I

Britisher and one American to whom would be given authority not to administer civil functions but to hold a veto power over French civil administration, and to direct them in the instances to follow out certain policies.

For example, I sent word to Eisenhower that all political prisoners in North and West Africa must be released. If Darlan fails to carry out this directive, Eisenhower must at once exercise his authority as Supreme Commander and take independent action in the matter.

Only a lemon

Darlan had been smitten by the President's reference to a "temporary expedient," and was beginning to feel his growing isolation. At this time he wrote to Gen. Clark:

Monsieur le General. Information from various sources tends to substantiate the view that I am "only a lemon" which the Americans will drop after they have squeezed it dry."

In the line of conduct which I have adopted out of pure French patriotic feeling, in spite of the serious disadvantages which it entails for me, at the moment when it was extremely easy for me to let events take their course without my intervention, my own personal position does not come into consideration.

I acted only because the American Government has solemnly undertaken to restore the integrity of French sovereignty as it existed in 1939, and because the armistice between the Axis and France was broken by the total occupation of Metropolitan France, against which the Marshal has solemnly protested.

I did not act through pride, ambition, or calculation, but because the position which I occupied in my country made it my duty to act.

When the integrity of France's sovereignty is an accomplished fact—and I hope that it will be in the least possible time—it is my firm intention to return to private life and to my days, in the course of which I have ardently served my country, in retirement.

Held on

The Admiral held on only because he felt that for the moment he was indispensable to the Allied Command in North Africa and held the key of power. On Nov. 22 the so-called Clark-Darlan Agreement was signed, setting up a provisional war-time administration in North Africa in opposition to Vichy. The new work arrangement whereby Darlan was at the head of civil affairs and Giraud was in command of the French armed forces was a compromise between the two.

Darlan's emissaries, brought over French West Africa, with the great base of Dakar, to the Allies.

But passion ran high in England about the Darlan deal. It affected poignantly some of my friends who had been most affronted by Munich, with whose impulses I had moved at crucial moments before the war. "Is this then what we are fighting for?" they asked. Many of those with whom I was in closest mental and moral harmony were in extreme distress.

All these emotions were fanned by the de Gaulle Committee and organisation in our midst. The Press gave full expression to this mood. Certainly there was a real and vivid case to be made and to be met. Not only Parliament but the nation found it hard to swallow. "De Gaulle banned; Darlan uplifted." At the same time the facts could not be stated nor the arguments deployed in public.

Secret session

While in my own mind, rightly or wrongly, I never had the slightest doubt that it was my duty to support Gen. Eisenhower and to save the lives of the soldiers committed to the enterprise, I was acutely sensitive to the opposite argument, and understood, if only to override, the discarded alternative conviction.

On Dec. 10, a month after the landing, the mounting pressure in the circles of which I was conscious led me to seek refuge in Secret Session of the House of Commons. The speech which I then made was conceived with the sole purpose of changing the prevailing opinion. The Commons were convinced and the fact that all further Parliamentary opposition stopped after the Secret Session quenched the hostile Press and reassured the country.

Deterioration

Political affairs in North Africa deteriorated rapidly during the last days of 1942. Not only was there a desperate struggle against Giraud for power and recognition among the recent adherents to the Allied cause, Darlan, Nogues, Bolson, and others, but also active discontent among those men who had helped the Allied landing on Nov. 8, and among the small but active group which was ardent for de Gaulle.

In addition there was growing support for a movement to place the Comte de Paris (the claimant to the Crown of France), at this time living quietly in Tangier, at the head of a provisional war-time administration in North Africa in opposition to Vichy. The new work arrangement whereby Darlan was at the head of civil affairs and Giraud was in command of the French armed forces was a compromise between the two.

On Dec. 19 the first emissary of de Gaulle, Gen. Francois d'Astier de la Vigerie, arrived unofficially in Algiers to explore the ground on behalf of his leader. He was the brother of Henri, who had played a leading part in the rising in the town of Algiers on Nov. 8, and who was now implicated in the Royalist conspiracy which aimed at bringing the Comte de Paris to power. The practical result of Gen. d'Astier de la Vigerie's visit was to stimulate the Gaullist opposition to Darlan.

Simultaneously with these talks the Monarchist elements in Algiers decided to press Darlan to abdicate and hand over to an all-party administration. It is not even now clear how much support they had.

Shot down

On the afternoon of Dec. 24 Darlan drove down from his villa to his offices in the Palais d'Este. At the door of his bureau he was shot down by a young man of twenty named Bonnier de la Chapelle. The Admiral died within the hour on the operating table of a near-by hospital. The youthful assassin, had, according to some stories, been connected with Henri d'Astier, and under much persuasion had worked himself into an exalted state of mind as the saviour of France from wicked leadership.

Apart from a small circle of personal friends grouped round d'Astier, there was no open support in Algiers for his act. He was tried by court-martial under Giraud's orders, and, much to his surprise, was executed by a firing squad shortly after dawn on Dec. 28.

Path cleared

On receiving the news of Darlan's assassination Gen. Eisenhower hurried back from the Tunisian front. In the circumstances the only thing to do was to nominate Giraud to fill the vacant place. We could not run the risk of civil disorder behind the front, and indirect though decisive pressure was exerted by the American authorities to achieve the appointment of Giraud to supreme though transitory political power in North Africa.

The path was cleared for the French forces now rallied in North and North-West Africa to unite with the Free French Movement round de Gaulle, and comprising all Frenchmen throughout the world outside German control. On learning of Darlan's fate de Gaulle made the first approach. He was about to leave for Washington for a long-delayed first meeting with the President when the news reached London. He at once drafted and despatched through Allied channels a message to Giraud.

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£88,000,000 Yearly For War Pensions

The report of the Ministry of Pensions, states that the national total of pensions being paid for disablement in the last two wars is 1,047,423 and expenditure over the last year was £88,175,000, while Scotland, the largest region in area, has 103,060 pensioners.

There are 144,750 in the North-west and 177,980 in London. Of the 2,204 seriously disabled pensioners in the North-west, 323 live in the Manchester district,

and there are another 9,500 limbless pensioners.

The Minister of Pensions, Mr. H. H. Morrison, discussing the report at a press conference, referred to the "misleading" title of his Ministry. They had tried to develop its health and welfare sides, and its functions were much wider now than the name implied. Last year, for example, they had spent about £2,400,000 on behalf of the National Health Service.

Mr. Morrison said that 3,500 seriously disabled pensioners were now taking part in the homecrafts service introduced this year. It was too early to report progress in detail, but there was evidence that pensioners were deriving a good deal of benefit from it. There were many difficulties in the marketing of the goods produced, however, and as the success of the service would depend on their satisfactory disposal, close attention was being given to the problem.

GENEROUS

The report states that considerations on which policy has been based during the past year have been the generous and sympathetic treatment of those really needing help, "balanced" with due regard to present financial stringency and the need for economy in all branches of state administration.

Most of the reduction in expenditure of £1,700,000 over the previous year was in the cost of medical treatment, and this was due to free provision under the National Health Service of treatment formerly paid for by the Ministry.

The reduction in the number of pensioners had not been reflected by a corresponding decrease in expenditure, and there had been a virtual increase of a present annual value of £6,700,000. For unemployment and lower standard of occupation, the increases in allowances paid amounted to £270,000. Expenditure on allowances for wives and children of pensioners had increased by £3,500,000 a year since 1946.

PRIVATE TOOK OVER A TOWN

Alderman J. Henson, of Hull, formerly of the 10th, Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment, recalled at a recent old comrades' reunion that as a private in "A" Company he once took over a town for a few days and was the "governor."

He told them he was the only private in the British Army to act as Town Major. This was at St. Catherine when he was an orderly room clerk. The real Town Major was hurriedly called away for some days and Pte. Henson took over.

Private Henson also claimed to have fired the first shot in the battalion after they left England in the 1914 war. They were on the Minnowaska bound for France, and Henson was on boat guard. By accident he fired his rifle and the shot went through the upper deck. There was an inquiry the next day, but Henson's explanation was accepted.

The reunion also heard a troopship story of a soldier who complained they were sick of feeding on dripping. "Dripping," mused a major. "Why?" "Well, trained on dripping and he swam the Channel in record time."

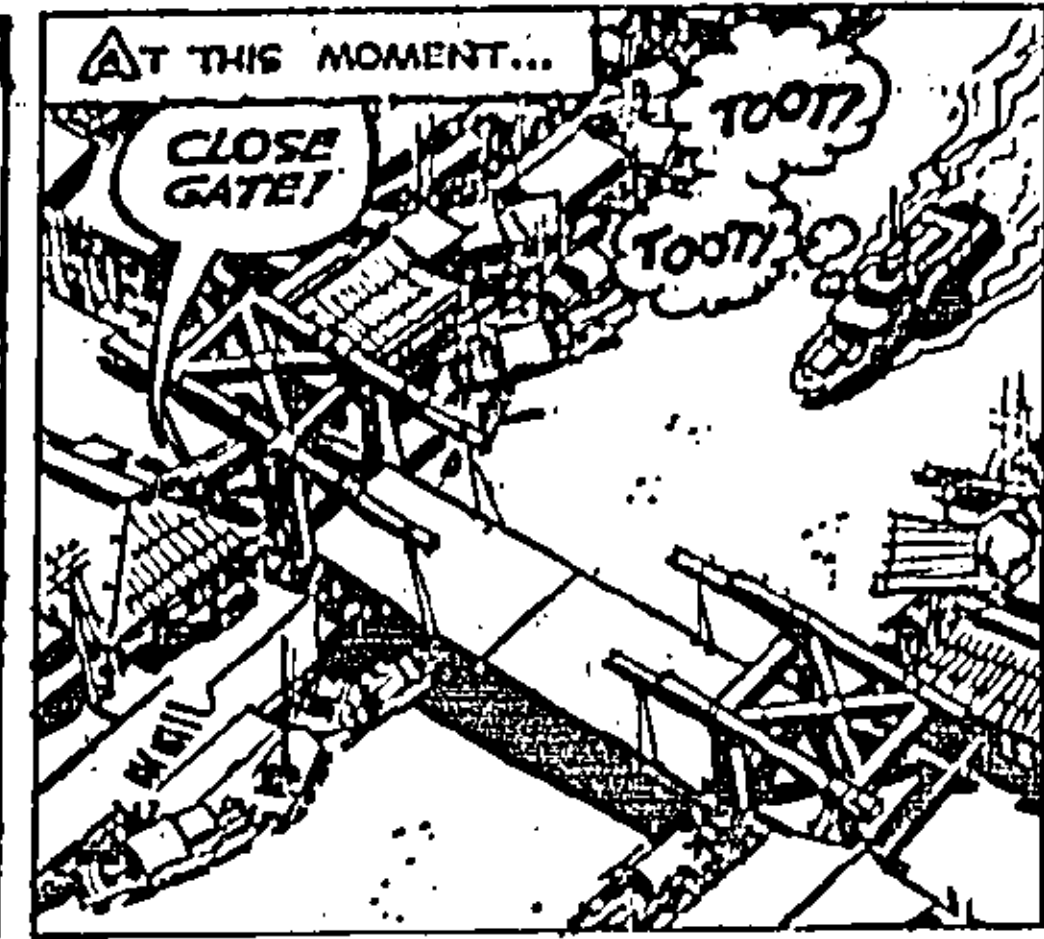
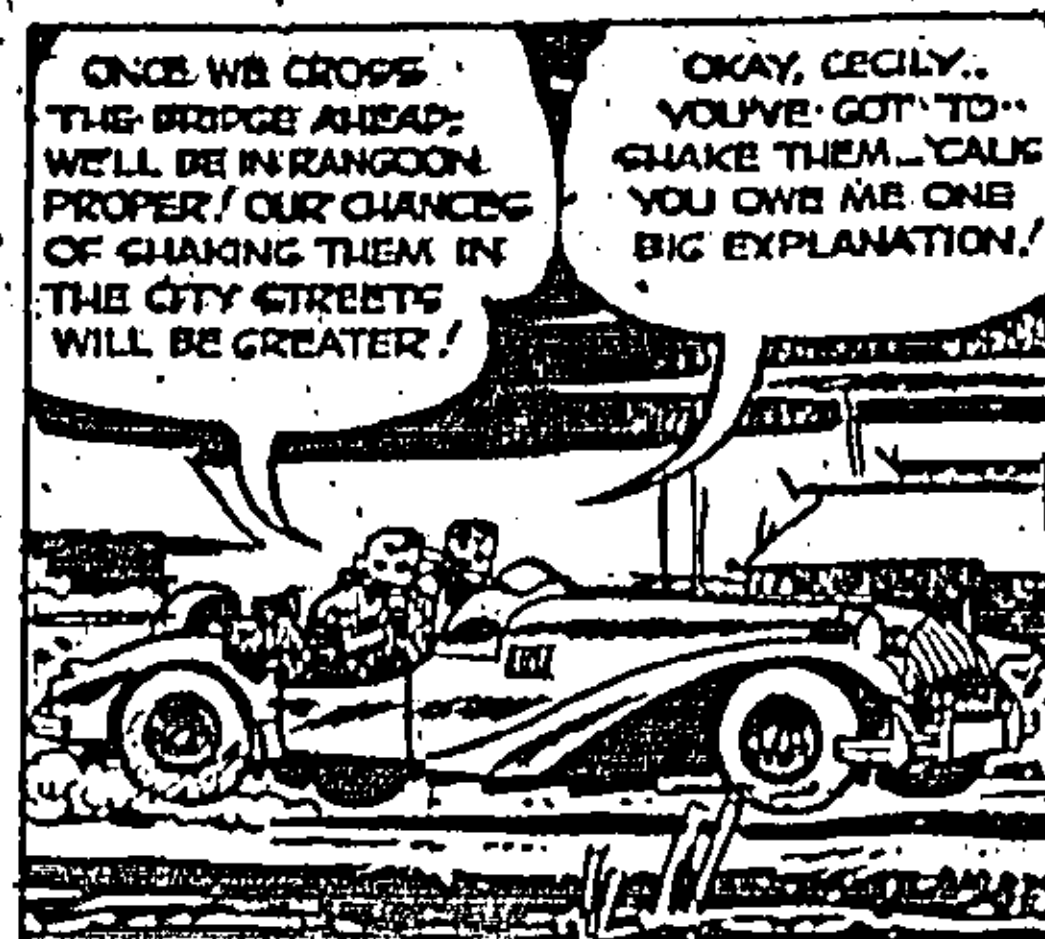
"Yes, Sir," said the soldier, "but I thought we were going across the Channel in a troopship, not that we were going to swim it!" The men still got dripping!

Snuffing Out The Cold

A successful attempt to reduce the loss of production caused by the common cold by insulating their workers with penicillin snuff is reported by Anclote and Pollock, Ltd. of Birmingham. It is claimed that if the workers who feel a cold coming on draw a packet of the snuff from the works ambulance room and take it "as directed," the cold just vanishes. The firm emphasizes that the snuff-taking will not cure a cold but will only prevent its developing.

The experiment has been in progress nearly two years, and the works medical officer states: "There is no doubt that this treatment has saved us a great deal of lost time and our employees a lot of discomfort. We are quite happy about the results and we are continuing the treatment. I know that it certainly stops me getting a cold."

JOHNNY HAZARD



BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

CANNOT a kind of Bailey bridge be built across stationary traffic, so that irate citizens, held up in a jam, could climb out of their motionless vehicles and go on their way, clambering along on the top of the cabs, cars, and buses?

Prognosis: It would be easier to walk along the pavements.

Myself: Doubtless. But very soon traffic will spread over the pavements, and pedestrians will use the roofs of buildings to get from one place to another. Then people will begin to live in the jammed vehicles, until the Government throws them out and installs civil servants. By that time pedestrians will be using holes in the ground.

Prognosis: And then?

Myself: Fearful monsters will crowd out of the Thames and eat us all up.

Suet explains

C. SUET, Esq., has suggested that all vehicles should use a different road for each day of the week, to avoid congestion. When it was pointed out that whatever road they used on any given day would be jammed, Suet said, "Not if they went in opposite directions on alternate days." It was advanced that every day would be an alternate day to half the traffic going in one direction on one road. Suet said, "Not if half of the traffic which was half of the road on which the other half of the traffic was going in another direction on another road." They said, "But there wouldn't be anything alternative about that, as to days, but only as to roads and directions." Suet replied, "Not if the road and direction on every other alternate day corresponded with the road and direction on the day itself." They then howled in exasperation, and Suet laid his finger on his upper lip and blew down his nose.

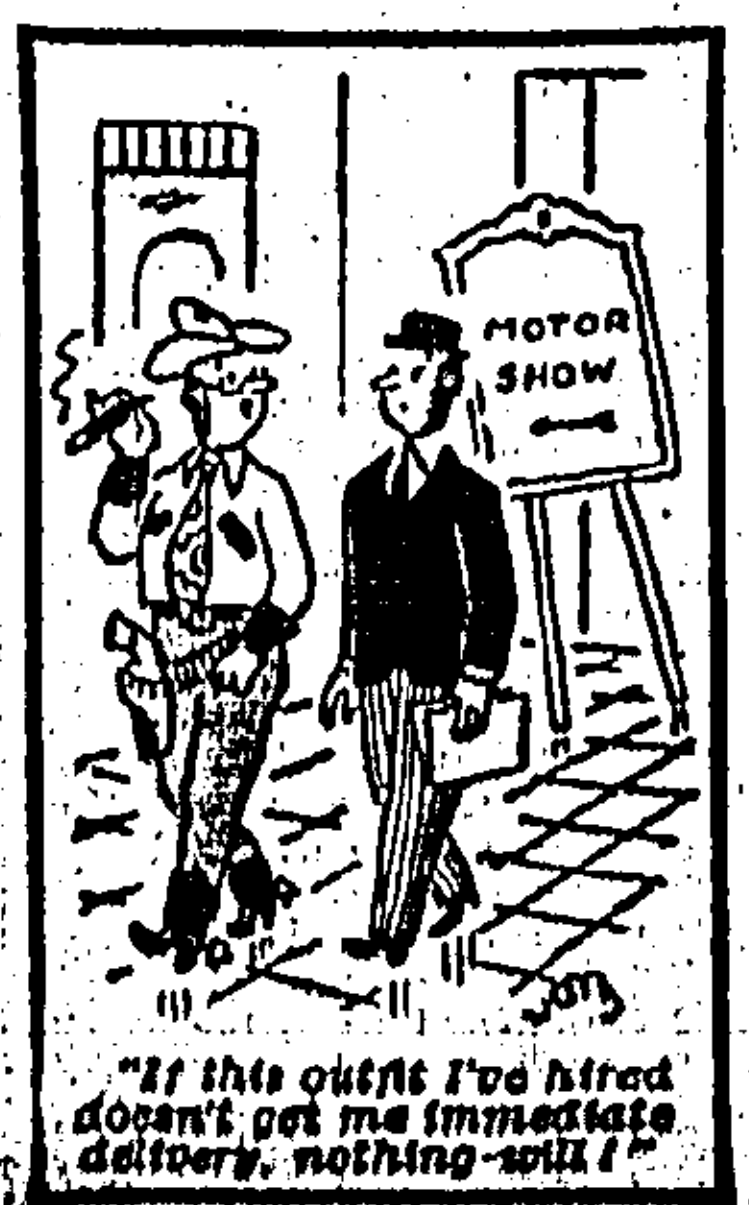
Stockings made of arrowroot, meat made of asbestos and dried vermicelli, glass made of ground feathers and resin—these are some of the improvements which will be seen at the Willesden Exhibition of Substitute Materials next Tuesday. It will be opened by Sir Edward Turberville, who was for many years chairman of Turberville, Turberville and Turberville. A feature of the Exhibition will be a stand devoted to charts, showing the

Check Your Knowledge

1. Name the president of Czechoslovakia at the time of signing of the Munich agreement.
2. What is neutron?
3. Are lyrics the words or the music of a song?
4. Did the Germans enter Moscow when they invaded Russia in 1941?
5. Mindanao is an island in what group of islands?
6. What is the meaning of the phrase "per se"?

(Answers on Page 12)

POCKET CARTOON



DUMB BELLS



JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Lou Finds A Card At the Right Time

9853	28	9853	28
1054	1054	1054	1054
74	74	74	74
85	85	85	85
Q8	Q8	Q8	Q8
KQ76	KQ76	KQ76	KQ76
J10	J10	J10	J10
42	42	42	42
DEALER	DEALER	DEALER	DEALER
KJ102	KJ102	KJ102	KJ102
8	8	8	8
A63	A63	A63	A63
AKQ3	AKQ3	AKQ3	AKQ3
N-S vul.	N-S vul.	N-S vul.	N-S vul.
South	West	North	East
1♠	1♥	Pass	Pass
2♣	2♦	Pass	Pass
4♣	4♦	Pass	Pass
Opening lead—♦ J	Opening lead—♦ J	Opening lead—♦ J	Opening lead—♦ J

By OSWALD JACOBY

"DON'T you know enough to take your tricks when they're offered to you," declarer asked disgustedly.

"Sorry," said Larceny Lou abjectly. "My cards were stuck, and I couldn't find that queen of spades to save my life."

Of course the card became unstuck very quickly a few moments later when Larceny Lou really needed that queen of spades.

Lou, holding the West cards, opened the deck of diamonds. Declarer put up dummy's queen. East covered with the king, and South won with the ace.

Now declarer was in some difficulty. He realised that he might have to lose two trump tricks and therefore could not afford to lose two diamonds. Instead of relying completely on a successful finesse for the queen of trumps, South decided to lead out his three top clubs in the hope of discarding a diamond from dummy. This plan would work if each opponent had three clubs and it would cost nothing important if the spade finesse should succeed.

When South led his third top club, Lou did a little fast thinking. It was evident that South had started the hand with five clubs and four spades. His eagerness to get rid of a diamond from dummy made it clear that he had three diamonds in his own hand as well as in the dummy. Therefore South could have only one heart.

Lou could see that his side could win nothing in hearts or clubs and therefore needed four tricks in spades and diamonds combined. If he trumped with the queen, dummy would surely take only one diamond, and East could hardly be expected to take two trump tricks in addition to Lou's queen.

Lou therefore ruffed with the eight of spades instead of with the queen.

Dummy over-ruffed with the nine, and now declarer was back where he had started. He still had to lose two diamond tricks and had to play the trumps as he lost only one trump trick. He led a small trump from dummy. East played low, and South misguessed, by finessing the jack.

Lou pounced on this trick with the queen of spades and cashed his two diamonds. Later on, of course, East took the ace of spades for the setting trick.

BARBS

It's embarrassing to give presents nowadays. People can find out the cost from the price control list.

It takes all kinds of people to make a blonde.

The modern girl makes a good mother. But a poor father.

It takes two to make a bargain, but only one gets it.

INTELLIGENCE TEST

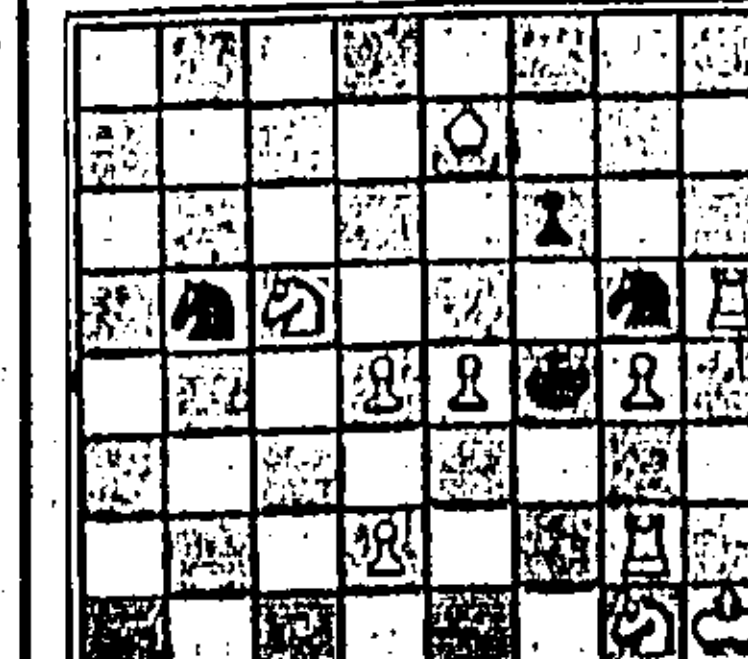
ART KNOWS NO FRONTIERS

In a recent exhibition at the Grafton Galleries, London, a picture of a thoroughly bewildered man, looking at a picture painted by one of his colleagues, and another picture painted by another one of his colleagues, was shown. Each artist contributed two pictures to the exhibition.

Gauguin painted two pictures of a man, and each artist signed one picture by each of the artists to whom they were attributed. The two pictures were signed by the two artists who produced the pictures, and each artist signed one picture by each of the artists to whom they were attributed. The two pictures were signed by the two artists who produced the pictures, and each artist signed one picture by each of the artists to whom they were attributed.

CHESS PROBLEM

By PHILIP WILLIAMS Black, 4 pieces.



White, 10 pieces. White to play and mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. Q-B1, 1... R-Q3, 2. B-K7 (ch); 1... B-Q4, 2. B-K1; 1... B-B3, 2. B-Q4; 1... others, 2. R-X4 (ch).

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

ARRIVALS	from Japan	15th Dec.
"AURAY"	from Europe	20th Dec.
"BEAUVAIS"		
SAILINGS		
PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE		
"FELIX ROUSSEL"	to Marseilles via Manila	10th Jan.
"LA MARSEILLAISE"	to Yokohama & Kobe	24th Jan.
"LA MARSEILLAISE"	to Marseilles via Manila	5th Feb.
FREIGHT SERVICE		
"AURAY"	N. Africa & Europe	16th Dec.
"BEAUVAIS"	N. Africa & Europe	16th Dec.
PORT SAID, TUNIS, MARSEILLES, ALGIERES, ORAN, TANGIER, CASABLANCA, HAVRE, DUNKERQUE, ANTWERP & ROTTERDAM		
"AURAY"	to Saigon	16th Dec.
"BEAUVAIS"	to Saigon	24th Dec.
"LECONTE DE LISLE"	to Marseilles via Saigon	5th Jan.
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